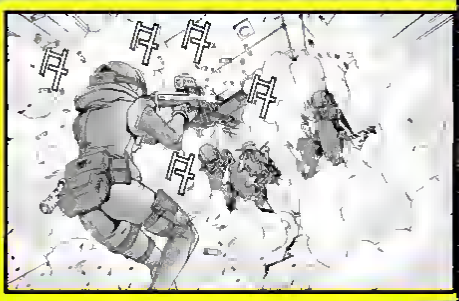
ARPEGGIO'S Story Guide

STORY

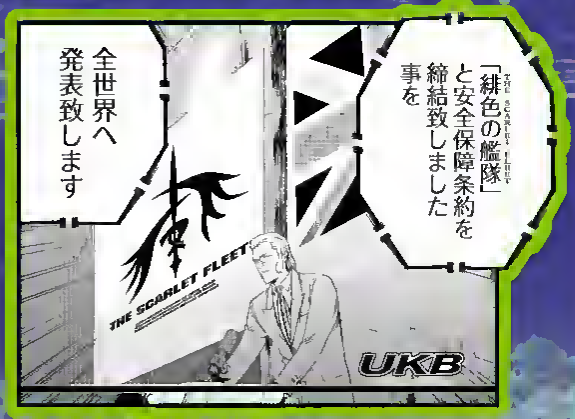
The Japanese army strikes Iwo Jima, where the crew of the 401 are hiding! The crew are killed one after another. Only one of them, Shizuka, fights alone against the spec ops teams, but the 401 is overtaken. However, the crew that were killed and recovered were actually dummies made by Takao. Meanwhile in Europe, Gunzou's father holds an emergency press conference in England. His "Scarlet Fleet" has signed a security treaty with the British government.

The army attacks the crew of the 401! Their merciless bullets slay the crew one after another.

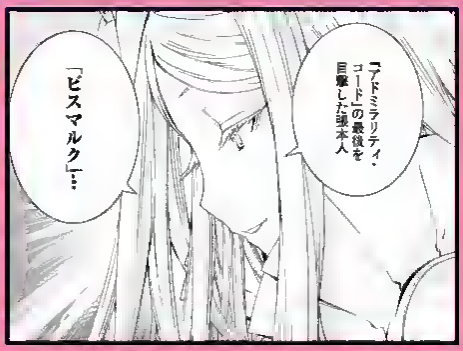
With agility learned from her family, Shizuka tears through the spec ops teams. But in the end her resistance is futile and she is forced to surrender.



The crew of the 401 that appeared to be killed were actually dummies created by Takao. While they have the army fooled, the 401 heads towards America with the Hakugei.

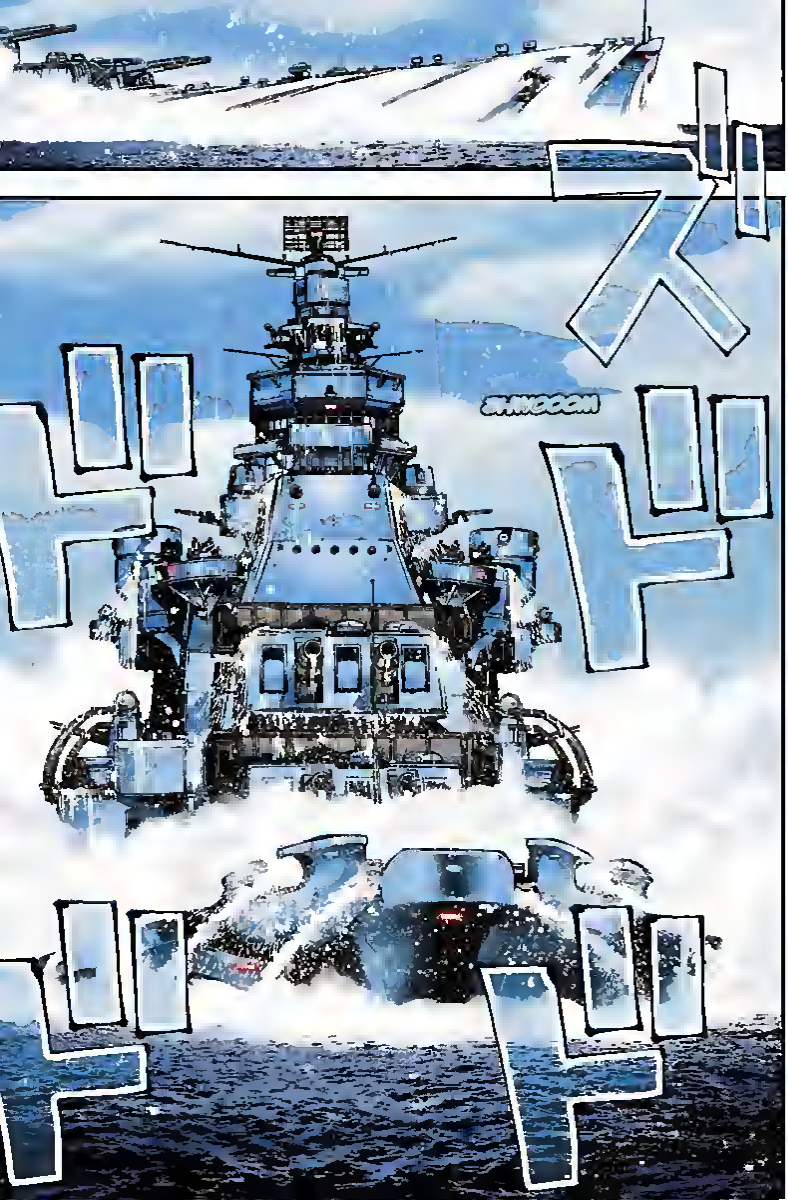


The British government holds an emergency press conference for the whole world. They announce that they signed a security treaty with the Fog's Scarlet Fleet.



Shouzou Chihaya finally makes his move. He begins his search for the Admiralty Code.

The largest battleship in Europe during WW2, the Bismarck, answers Shouzou's call.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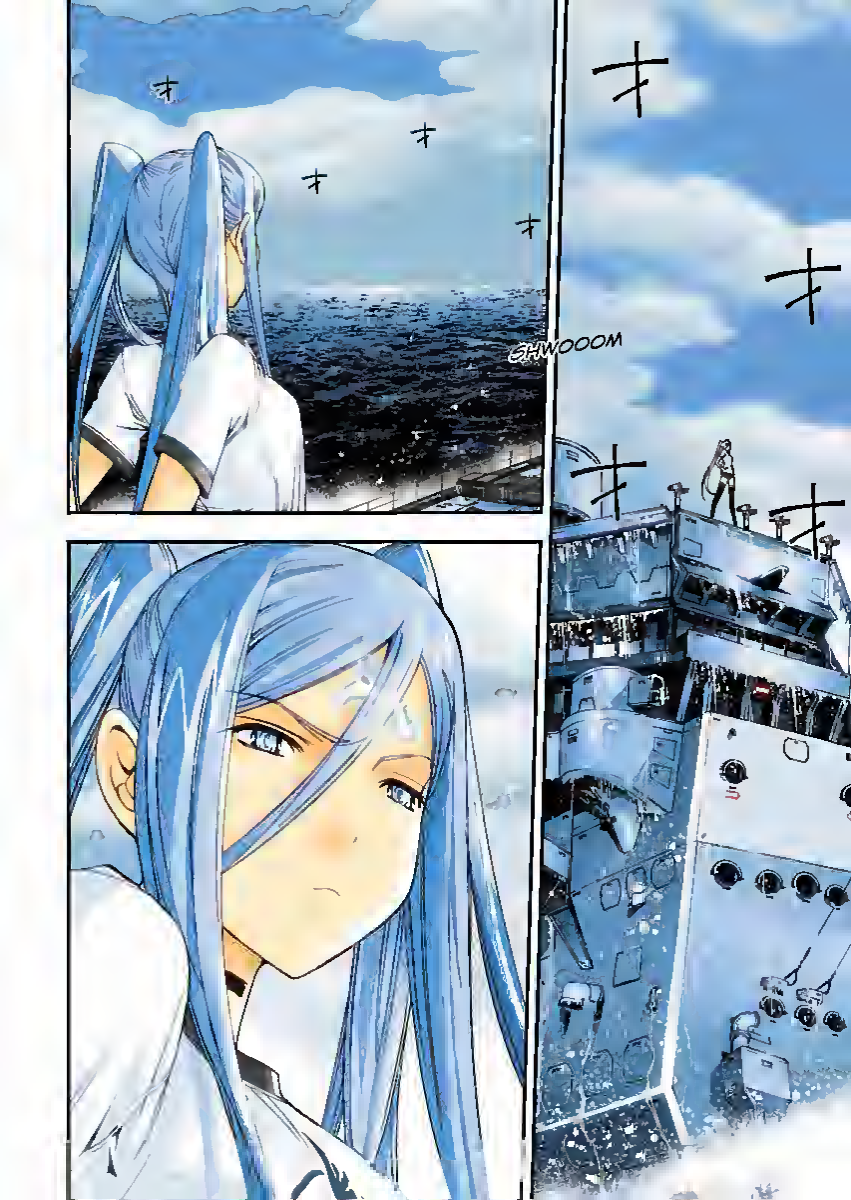
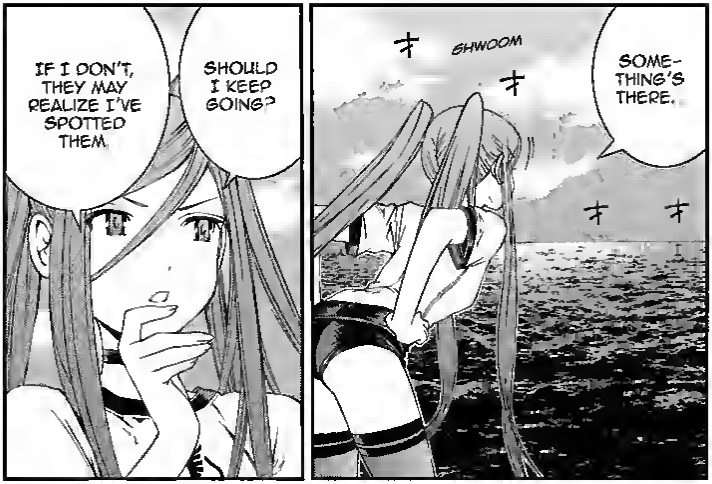
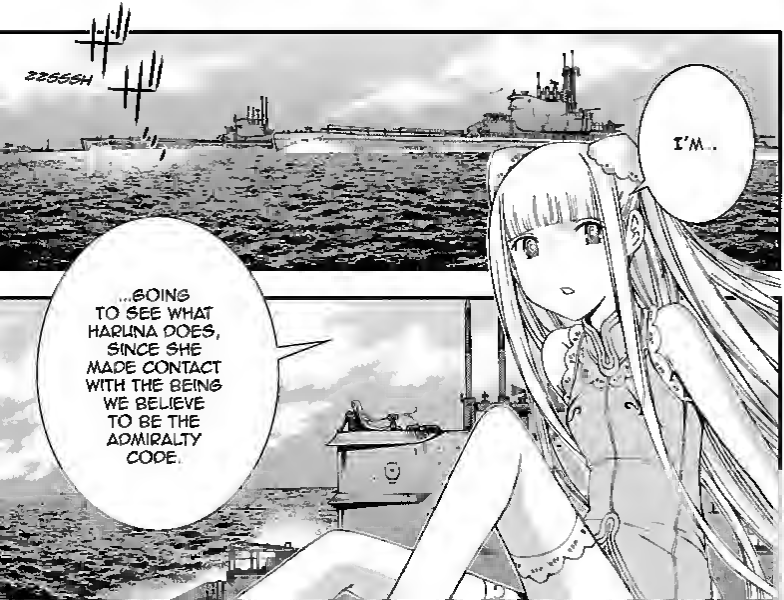
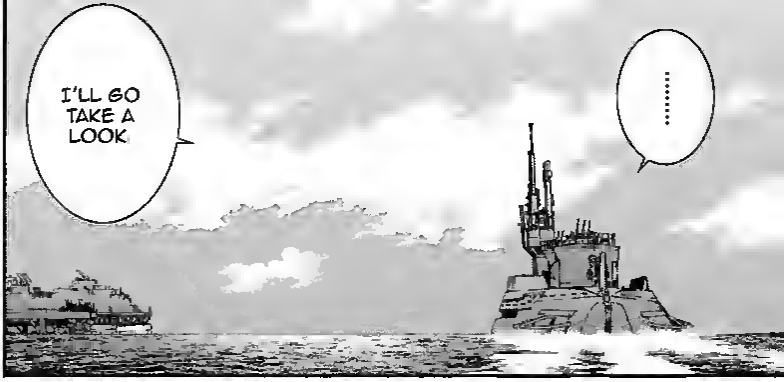

GHWOOOM

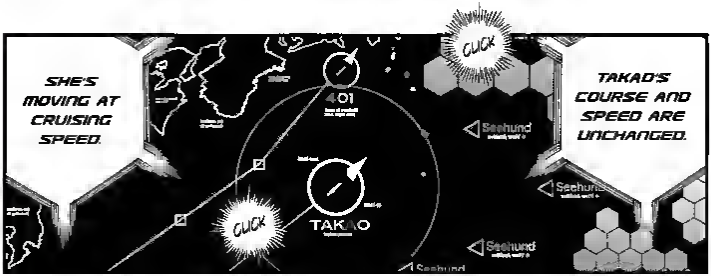

IF I DON'T, THEY MAY REALIZE I'VE SPOTTED THEM.
SHOULD I KEEP GOING?
SHWOOM
SOME-THING'S THERE.


ZZSSSH
I'M..
...GOING TO SEE WHAT HARUNA DOES, SINCE SHE MADE CONTACT WITH THE BEING WE BELIEVE TO BE THE ADMIRALTY CODE.

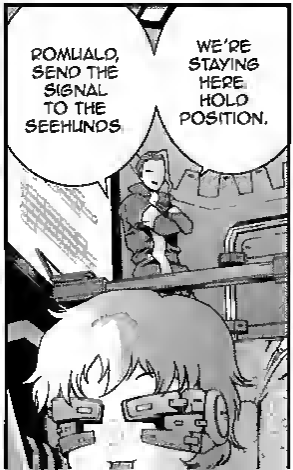
ZZSSH
I'LL RESUME INVESTIGATION INTO NAGARA'S CORE
ROGER. ONCE I'VE FINISHED MY ERRAND FOR THE HIGH FLAGSHIP...
I KNOW WHAT THE HIGH FLAGSHIP SAID, BUT STILL...
I WONDER...
NAGARA'S CORE?
ROGER.
GOOD-BYE, THEN.
THWOOM
ONCE I KNOW WHAT HARUNA AND KIRISHIMA ARE UP TO I'LL MEET UP WITH YOU AGAIN.
WELL, I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU.
THWOOM

.....
!!
THAT'S THE SOUND OF THE 401'S ENGINE
NO..IT'S IDENTICAL, BUT DIFFERENT
IT'S SO ACCURATELY MADE THAT IF I WASN'T A SPY SHIP I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO TELL THE DIFFERENCE
WHO MADE IT? TAKAO?


I'LL GO TAKE A LOOK.
.....


SHE'S MOVING AT CRUISING SPEED.
CLICK
401
CLICK
TAK O
Seehund
Seehund
Seehund
TAKAO'S COURSE AND SPEED ARE UNCHANGED.

BEGIN THE BATTLE.


ROMUALD, SEND THE SIGNAL TO THE SEEHUNDS.
WE'RE STAYING HERE. HOLD POSITION.

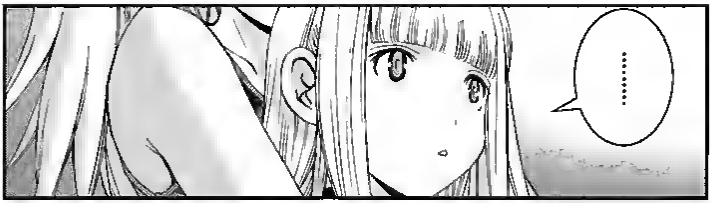
WOLF-PACK PROGRAM INITIALIZED.
BEEP
BEEP
ROGER SENDING THE ACTIVATION SIGNAL TO ALL SEEHUNDS
VWEEEM
ENGAGING COMMANDS W-02 TO OMEGA 07
I WAS RIGHT THEY'RE COMING
THOOM
THOOM

WOLF-PACK TACTICS, WAS IT?
I DON'T HAVE ANY DATA ON THEM...
MINI-SUBS? IS THAT THE U-BOAT THAT ATTACKED THE 401?
BOOM
BOOM
WAS IT CREATED AFTER ADMIRAL SHOUZOU HEADED FOR EUROPE?
112
ドドドド
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
I'M SURE IT IS.
THIS IS BAD THE DUMMY IS... STILL IN FRONT OF THE PORT?

CRUISER TAKAO
THEY'RE LOWER THAN HER SPECS WOULD INDICATE...
THESE ARE ROUGH VALUES.
DISPLAYING LEVEL-1 ANALYSIS OF THE TAKAO'S COMBAT DATA.
TAKAO
I SEE...
THAT DUMMY, HUH?
CLICK
CLICK
401

THE 401 SHOULD STILL BE RENDEZVOUSING WITH THE HAKUGEI
IF KONGOU FINDS OUT THAT DUMMY IS A FAKE...
...THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO BUY TIME
KROOM
KROOM
KROOM
BUT MAINTAINING ALL THAT...
..PUTS A HEAVY LOAD ON MY CORE..
I NEED TO AT LEAST KEEP IT UP UNTIL IT GETS INSIDE THE DOCK..

HMM?
WHAT'S WRONG?
THIS IS ENGINE ROOM 5. THE HAKUGEI...
SHE JUST TOUCHED ME FOR A SECOND...
...AND THEN CUT CONTACT.
TAKAO TOUCHED ME FOR A SECOND.
TAKAO DID?
YOU THINK SHE WANTED TO CONFIRM OUR POSITION?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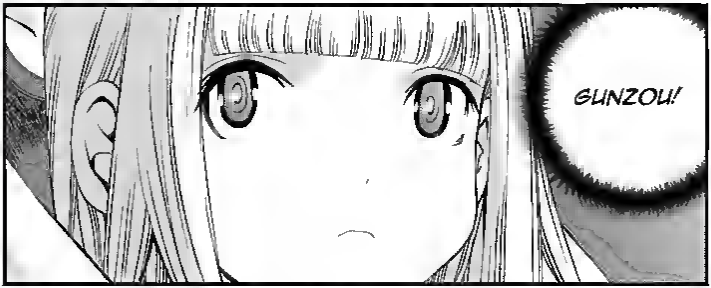
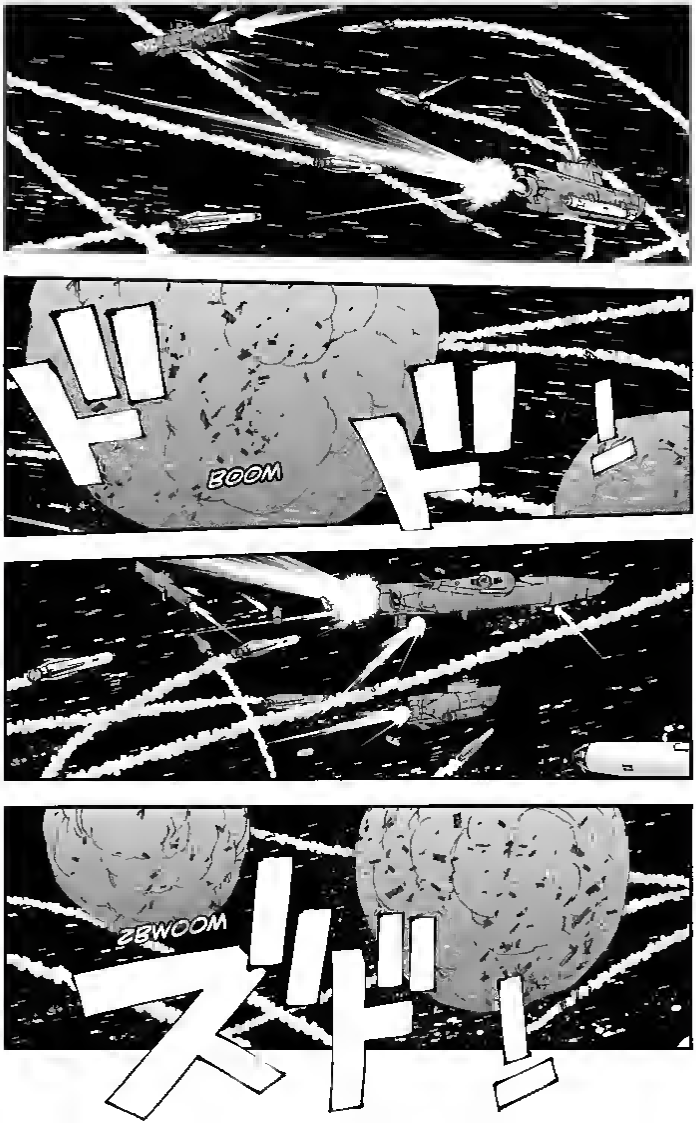
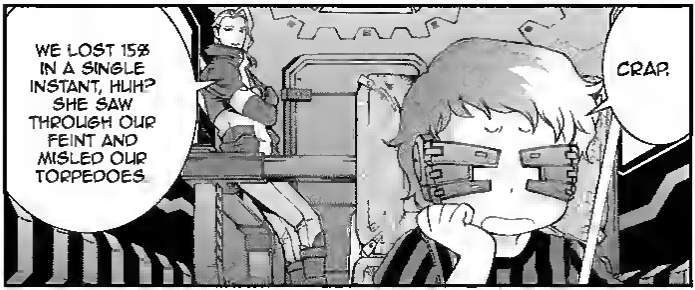

GUNZOU!

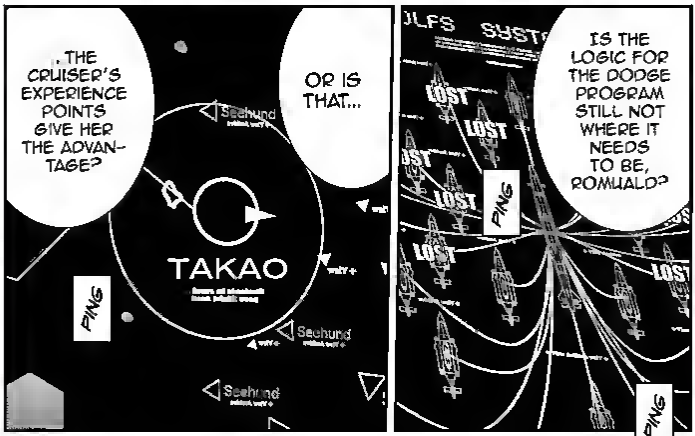
ド!!
BOOM
ド!!
BOOM
ド!!
BOOM
ド!!

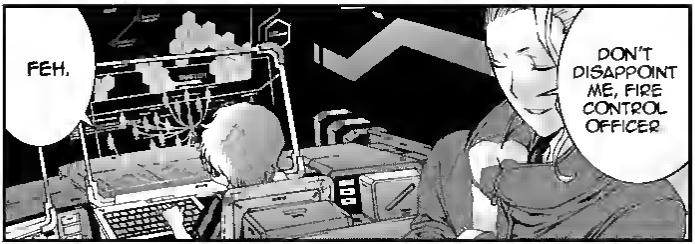
TOO MANY TO TAKE OUT ONE BY ONE.
THERE'S A LOT OF THEM.
BLOOSH
I NEED TO FIND THE 2501 ITSELF.
THERE ARE THREE TYPES OF MINI-SUBS THEY'RE USING.
I'LL START BY HITTING THE ONES USING ACTIVE SONAR.
FWOOSH


ドドド
BOOM
ZBWOOM
ズドド

...QUIETS THINGS DOWN NICELY.
AND THAT..
SLOOSH

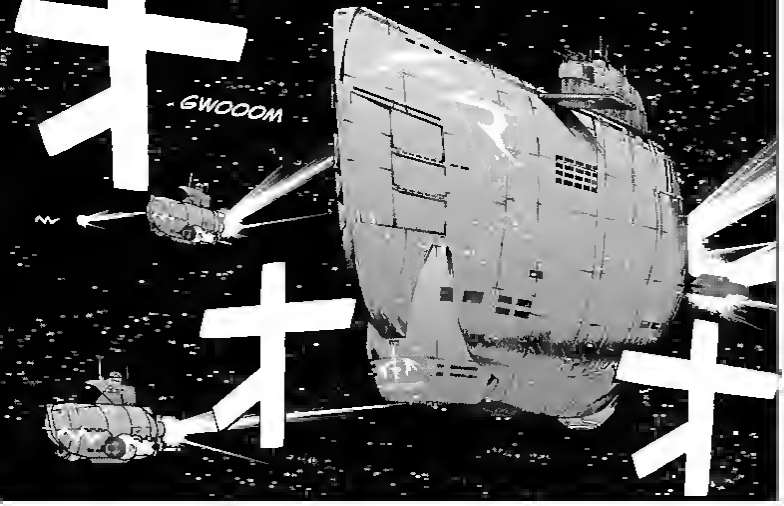

WE LOST 158 IN A SINGLE INSTANT, HUH? SHE SAW THROUGH OUR FEINT AND MISLED OUR TORPEDOES.
CRAP.

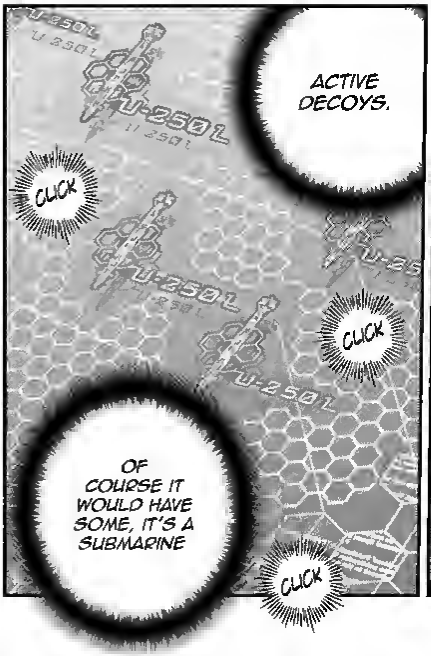

...THE CRUISER'S EXPERIENCE POINTS GIVE HER THE ADVAN-TAGE?
OR IS THAT...
TAKAO
Seehund
PING
IS THE LOGIC FOR THE DODGE PROGRAM STILL NOT WHERE IT NEEDS TO BE, ROMUALD?
LOST
PING

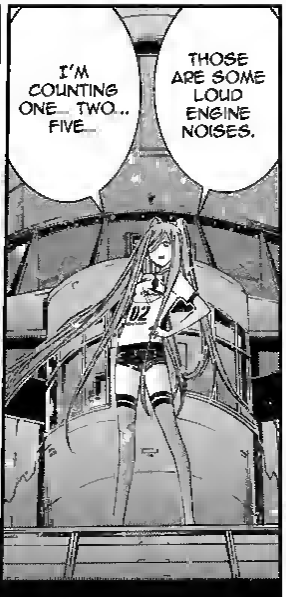

FEH.
DON'T DISAPPOINT ME, FIRE CONTROL OFFICER.

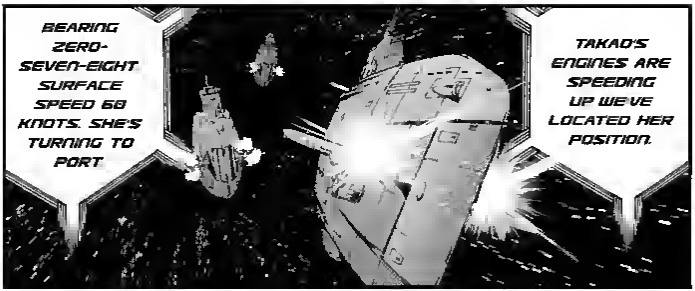
WE'RE GETTING LESS SONAR FROM THE SEEHUNDS TOO
THE EXPLOSIONS ARE LOWERING OUR SONAR SENSITIVITY.
I'M SORRY!

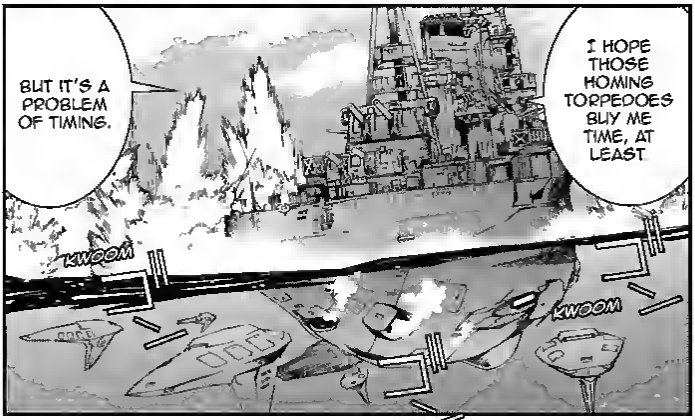
WE'LL MAKE OUR MOVE.

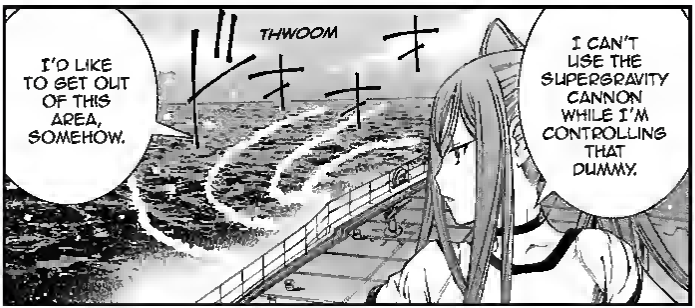

GWOOOM


U-250L
ACTIVE DECOYS.
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
OF COURSE IT WOULD HAVE SOME, IT'S A SUBMARINE

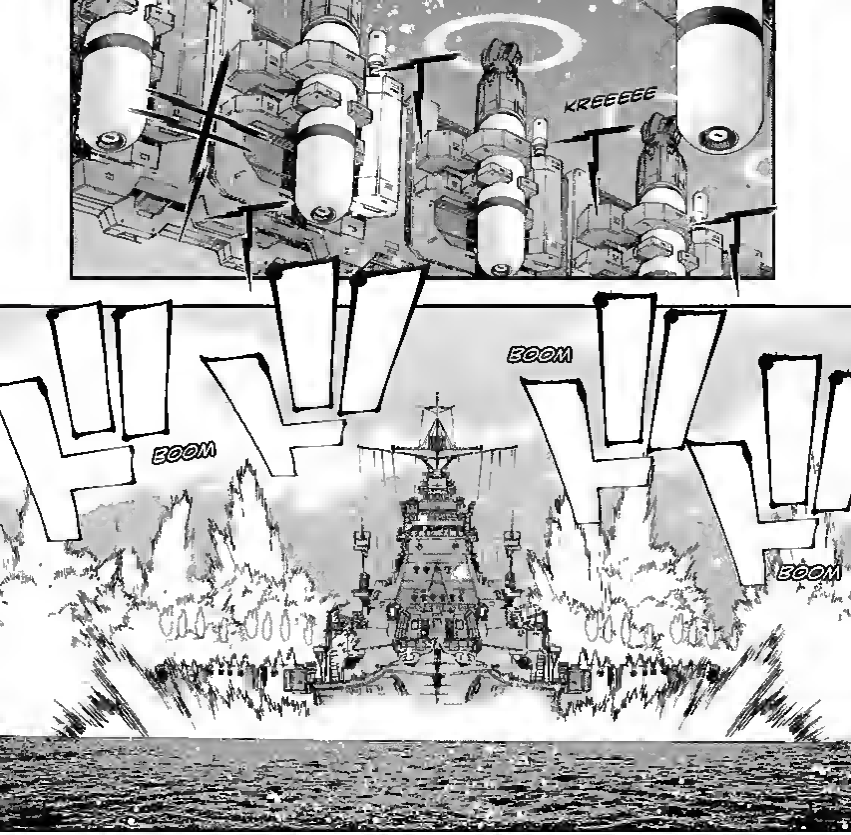

I'M COUNTING ONE... TWO... FIVE...
THOSE ARE SOME LOUD ENGINE NOISES.

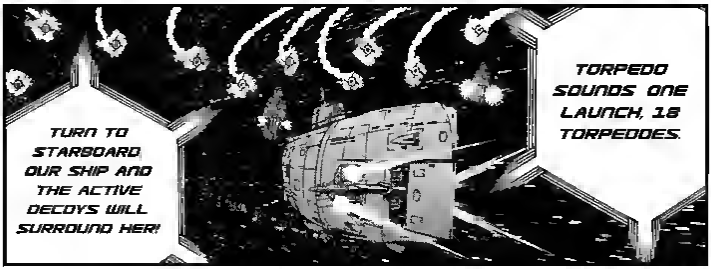

BEARING ZERO-SEVEN-EIGHT. SURFACE SPEED 68 KNOTS. SHE'S TURNING TO PORT.
TAKAO'S ENGINES ARE SPEEDING UP. WE'VE LOCATED HER POSITION.


BUT IT'S A PROBLEM OF TIMING.
I HOPE THOSE HOMING TORPEDOES BUY ME TIME, AT LEAST.
KWOOM
KWOOM

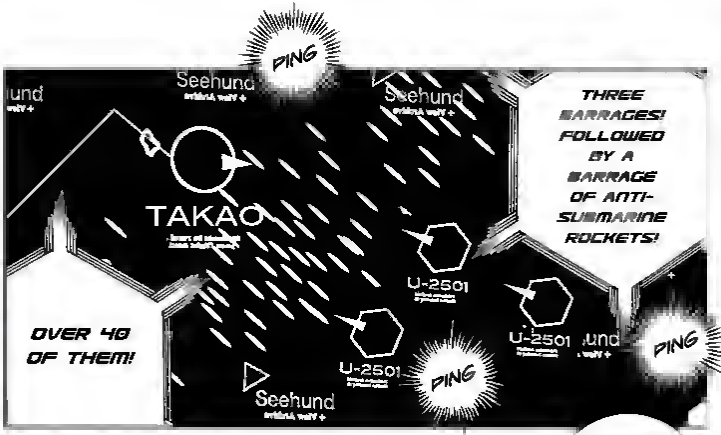

THWOOM
I'D LIKE TO GET OUT OF THIS AREA, SOMEHOW.
I CAN'T USE THE SUPERGRAVITY CANNON WHILE I'M CONTROLLING THAT DUMMY.

2501, MOVE TO COMBAT SPEED!
SEND ANY SEEHUNDS THAT RUN OUT OF TORPEDOES BACK TO THE MILCHKUH TO RELOAD
WHICH IS THE REAL ONE?
ゴゴゴ
RUMBLE
ALL RIGHT THEN...
ゴゴゴ
RUMBLE


KRSEEEE
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM


TURN TO STARBOARD. OUR SHIP AND THE ACTIVE DECOYS WILL SURROUND HER!
TORPEDO SOUNDS. ONE LAUNCH, 18 TORPEDOES.

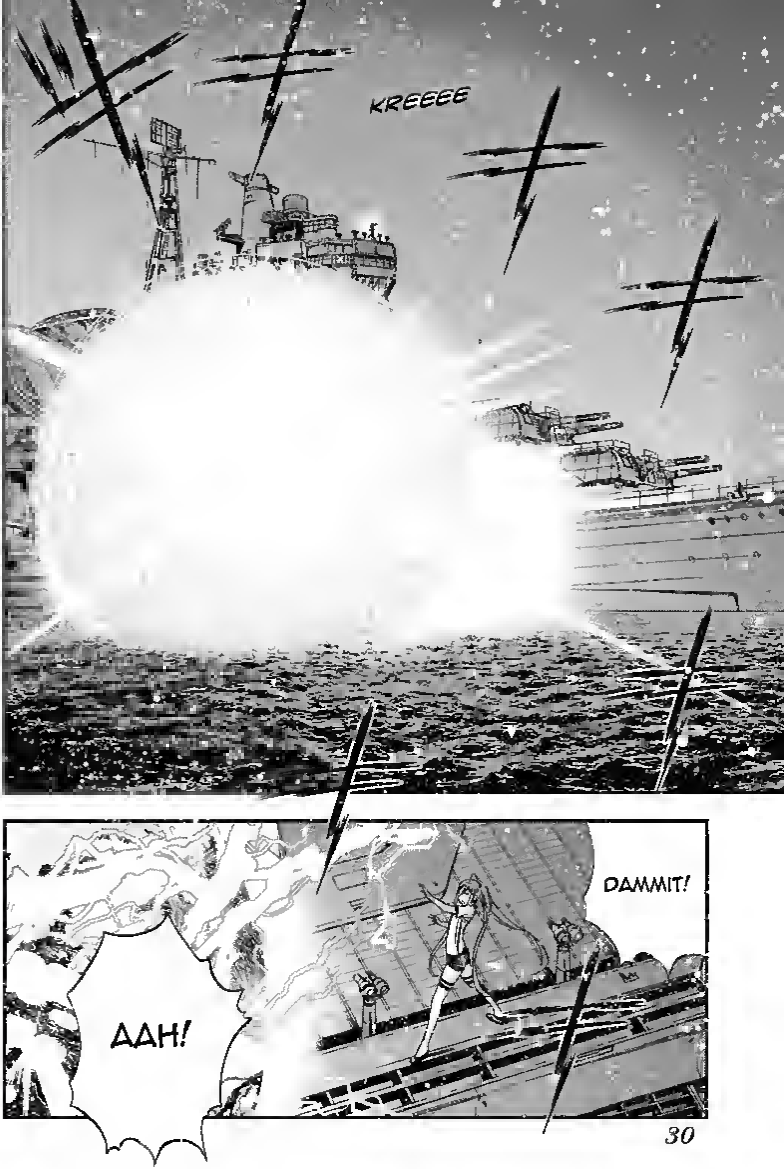
ドドドドドド
BOOM
THREE MORE!
KABOOM
FWOOSH
I FOUND YOU!
YOU'RE THE REAL ONE!


PING
Seehund
TAKAO
Seehund
THREE BARRAGES! FOLLOWED BY A BARRAGE OF ANTI-SUBMARINE ROCKETS!
U-2501
U-2501
OVER 40 OF THEM!
U-2501
PING
PING
Seehund

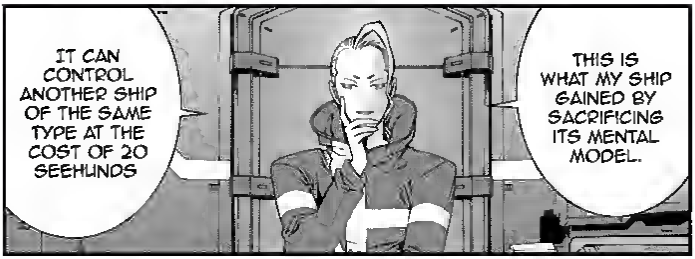
PING
HAVE THE SEEHUNDS TAKE EVASIVE MANEUVERS AS WELL!
STIR UP THE WATER!
TURN TO PORT! DEPLOY S-MINES!
PING

ZWOOM
ズ
WHOOM

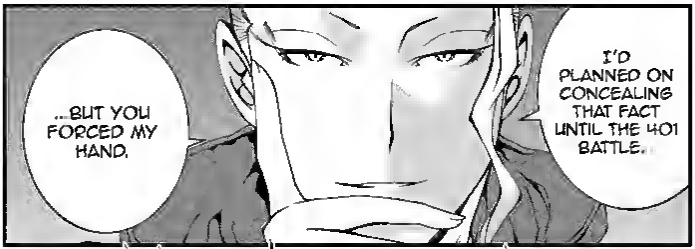
YOU'RE MINE!
IT'S TOO LATE!
WHY DIDN'T HE USE ACOUSTIC TORPEDOES WHEN HE DODGED?
NO, WAIT.
T-WOOOM
!!


KREEEE
DAMMIT!
AAH!

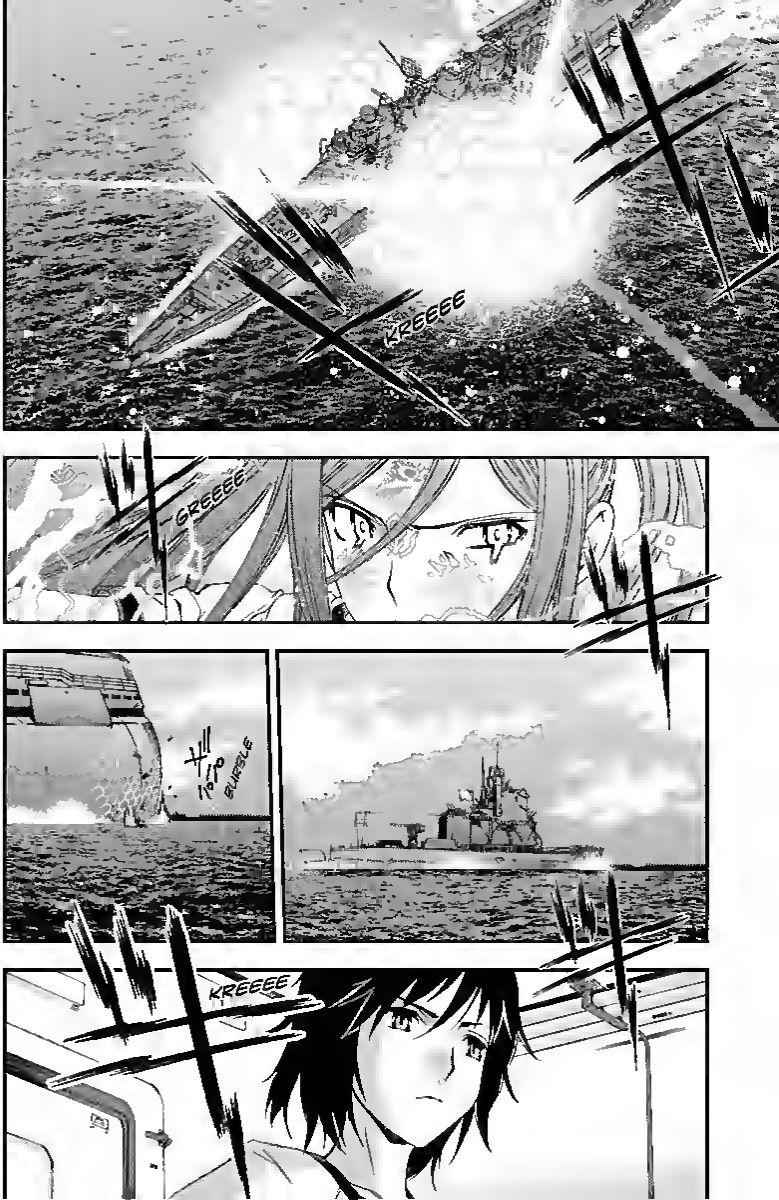
TWO SHIPS?
DWEEEE
THERE WAS ANOTHER REAL SHIP...
...HIDDEN AMONG THE DECOYS?
PSHOOM


IT CAN CONTROL ANOTHER SHIP OF THE SAME TYPE AT THE COST OF 20 SEEHUNDS
THIS IS WHAT MY SHIP GAINED BY SACRIFICING ITS MENTAL MODEL.

BECAUSE YOU GOT RID OF THOSE SEEHUNDS FOR ME, I DECIDED TO USE IT.
Seehund
U-2501
TAKAO
U-2501
Seehund
U-2501


...BUT YOU FORCED MY HAND.
I'D PLANNED ON CONCEALING THAT FACT UNTIL THE 401 BATTLE.

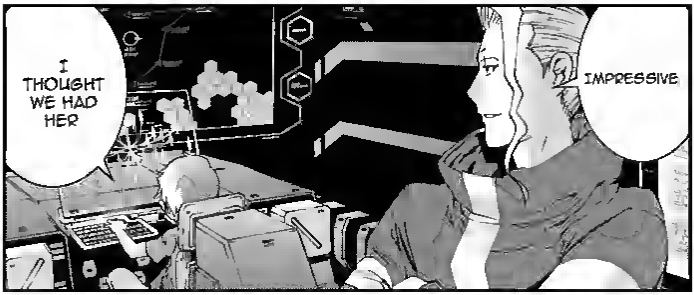
KREEEE
THE FIELD CALCULA-TIONS... NO!

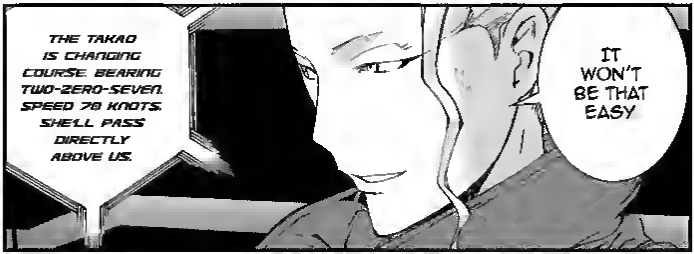

KREEEE
KREEEE
KREEEE

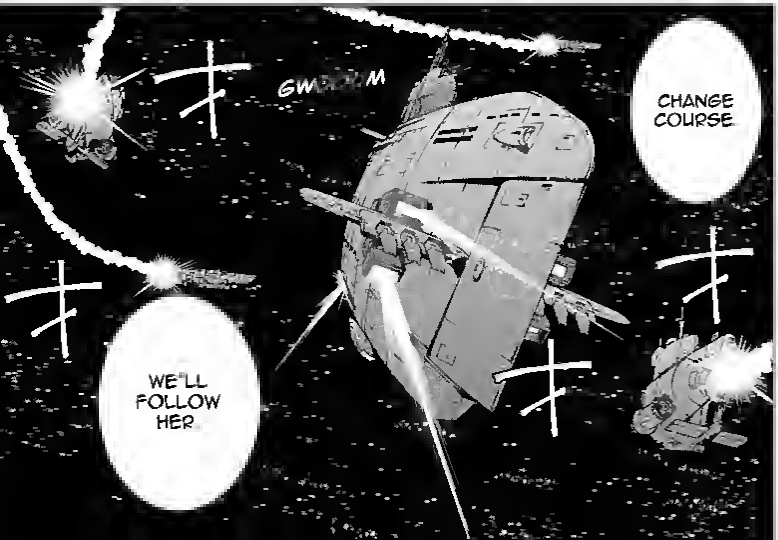
Depth:037 / END

Depth:038
NO! THE FIELD CALCULA-TIONS...!
CLICK
CLICK
GHCK!
KREEEE

WE'VE GOT HER.
DETECTING TWO SPATIAL SHOCKWAVE MOTIONS.
THE TAKAO IS INCREASING SPEED
INCREASING SPEED? SHOCKWAVE MOTIONS MEAN WE HIT HER TWICE, RIGHT?
SO HOW CAN SHE MOVE?
SHE DEPLOYED THE FIELDS OUT AS MUCH AS SHE COULD.
AND WAS ABLE TO COUNTERACT THE SPACE-TIME CORROSION OF THE TORPEDOES TO A DEGREE

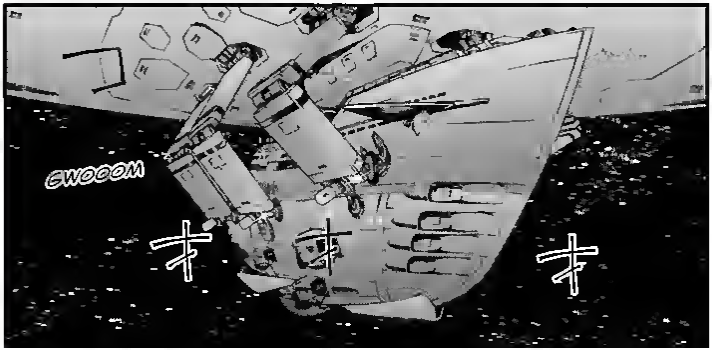

I THOUGHT WE HAD HER
IMPRESSIVE

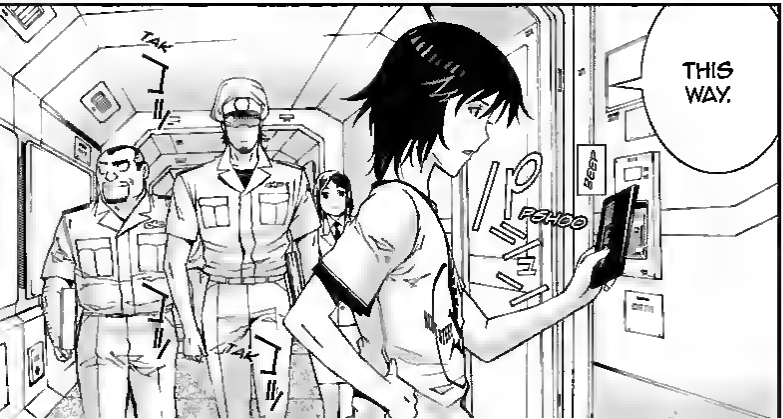

THE TAKAO IS CHANGING COURSE. BEARING TWO-ZERO-SEVEN. SPEED 78 KNOTS. SHE'LL PASS DIRECTLY ABOVE US.
IT WON'T BE THAT EASY


CHANGE COURSE
WE'LL FOLLOW HER

...ARE 728 GONE.
KLEIN FIELDS...
BOOM
BOOM
THAT SCARED ME.
MY VITAL PARTS MADE IT THROUGH UNSCATHED
THEY'RE FOLLOWING ME...
.....

I'M GOING TO NEED TO REGROUP.


GWOOOM

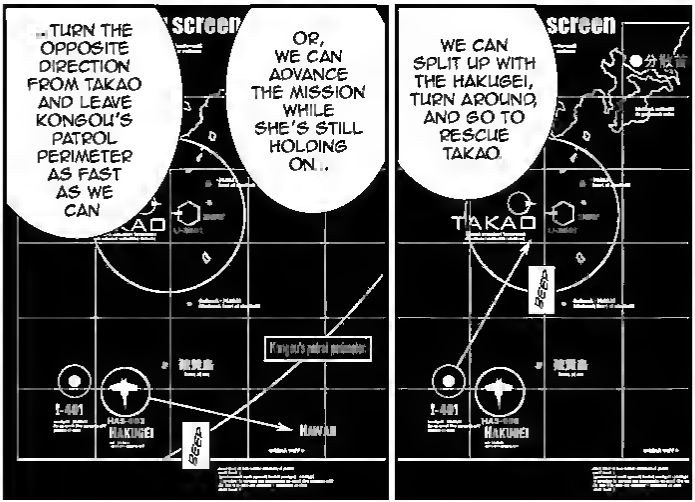

TAK
THIS WAY.
BEEP
PEHOO
TAK

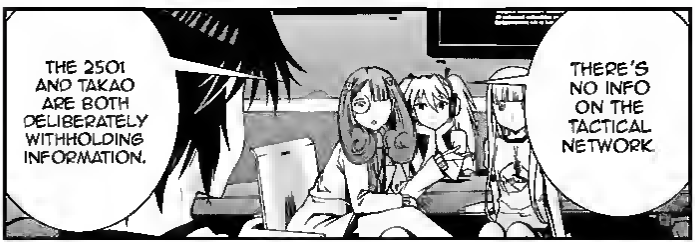
COME IN
PARDON THE INTRUSION
TAK
TAK
I HAVEN'T BEEN ON THE 401 SINCE I SAW YOUR FATHER OFF
BLUE STEEL

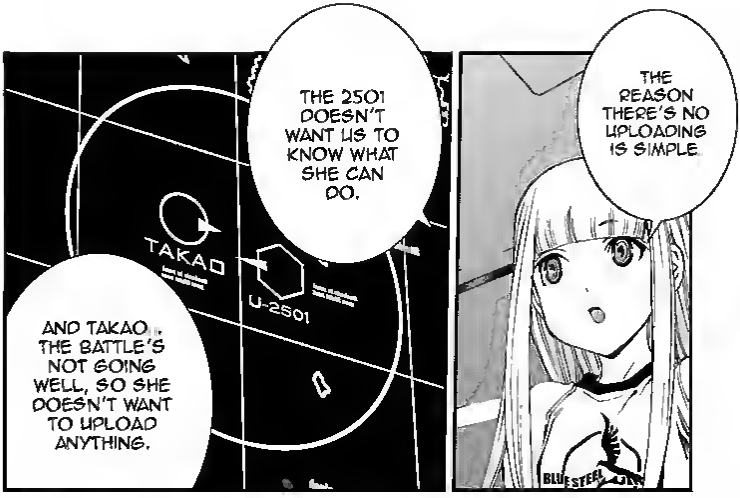
IONA AND HYUUGA TELL US THAT THEY THINK THE HEAVY CRUISER TAKAO IS CURRENTLY IN COMBAT WITH THAT U-BOAT WE ENCOUNTERED.
SORRY TO BRING YOU ALL HERE SO SUDDENLY, EVERYONE.
BLUESTEEL
...WHICH IS A CRITICAL FACTOR IN THIS MISSION.
AS YOU ALL KNOW, TAKAO IS PRESENTLY CONTROLLING THE DUMMY...
IONA AND HYUUGA TELL ME THAT DEPENDING ON HOW THE BATTLE GOES...
...IT MAY BE DIFFICULT FOR TAKAO TO MAINTAIN THE DUMMY 401.

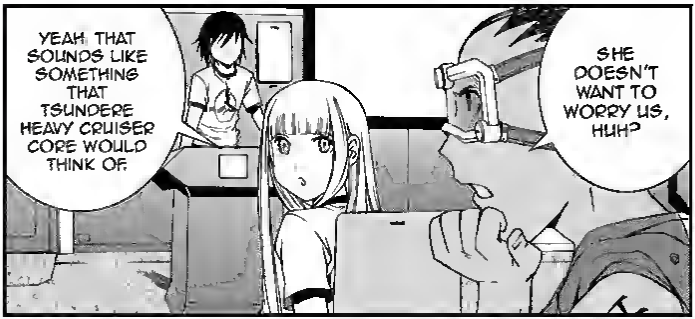
..I WANT TO DECIDE WHAT WE DO NEXT.
BLUE STEEL
BEEP
SO...
WE'LL ACT AS OBSERVERS HERE
WE'RE NOT IN A POSITION TO TELL YOU WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR FLEET
GLAD TO HEAR IT.
YES, OF COURSE.
YOU'RE FINE WITH THAT, RIGHT CAPTAIN KOMAKI?

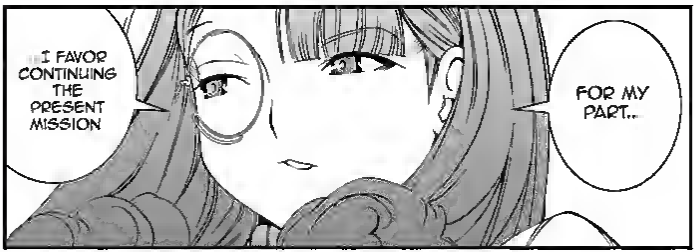
...WE HAVE TWO MAJOR OPTIONS.
ACCORDING TO IONA AND HYUUGA'S ANALYSIS..


...TURN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION FROM TAKAO AND LEAVE KONGOU'S PATROL PERIMETER AS FAST AS WE CAN
OR, WE CAN ADVANCE THE MISSION WHILE SHE'S STILL HOLDING ON...
WE CAN SPLIT UP WITH THE HAKUGEI, TURN AROUND, AND GO TO RESCUE TAKAO.
TAKAO
HAKUGEI
HAKUREI
KAWAKAZE


THE 2501 AND TAKAO ARE BOTH DELIBERATELY WITHHOLDING INFORMATION.
THERE'S NO INFO ON THE TACTICAL NETWORK


THE REASON THERE'S NO UPLOADING IS SIMPLE.
THE 2501 DOESN'T WANT US TO KNOW WHAT SHE CAN DO.
TAKAO
U-2501
AND TAKAO, THE BATTLE'S NOT GOING WELL, SO SHE DOESN'T WANT TO UPLOAD ANYTHING.

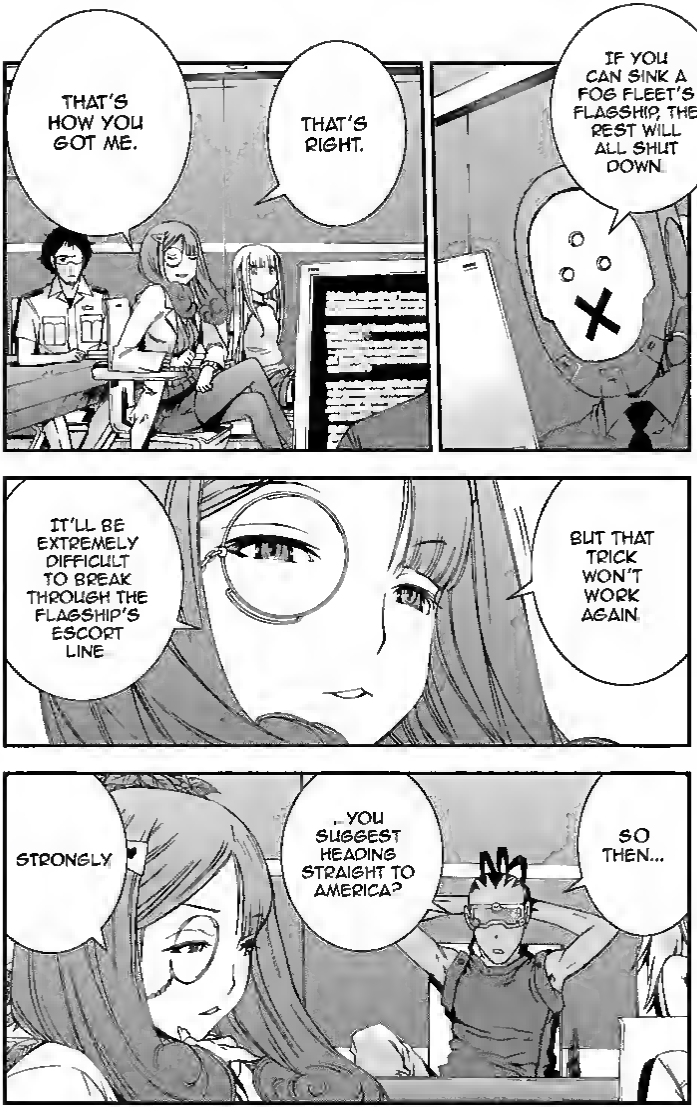

SHE DOESN'T WANT TO WORRY US, HUH?
YEAH. THAT SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING THAT TSUNDERE HEAVY CRUISER CORE WOULD THINK OF.


FOR MY PART..
I FAVOR CONTINUING THE PRESENT MISSION

WE CAN GET OUT OF THE PATROL ZONE OF A LARGE BATTLESHIP AND HER FLEET WITHOUT FIGHTING.
THIS SITUATION IS A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME CHANCE.
BUT THEN WE MAY LOSE TAKAO.
WE'D ALL GLADLY DIE FOR THE SAKE OF THE MISSION.
WE'RE BATTLESHIPS.

WELL, EVEN IF WE DID TURN AROUND AND WE MANAGED TO SAVE TAKAO...
THAT'S A COLD, CALCULATING DECISION. I'D EXPECT THAT FROM A FORMER FLEET FLAGSHIP.
AND SHE'S GOT EIGHT HEAVY CRUISERS AND THREE SMALLER DESTROYER AND LIGHT CRUISER FLEETS, TOO.
WE'D HAVE TO FIGHT KONGOU TO BREAK OUT OF HER PATROL ZONE.
HIEI'S WITH HER FLEET, TOO.
YOU CAN SAFELY ASSUME SHE'S GOT ABOUT 40 SHIPS.

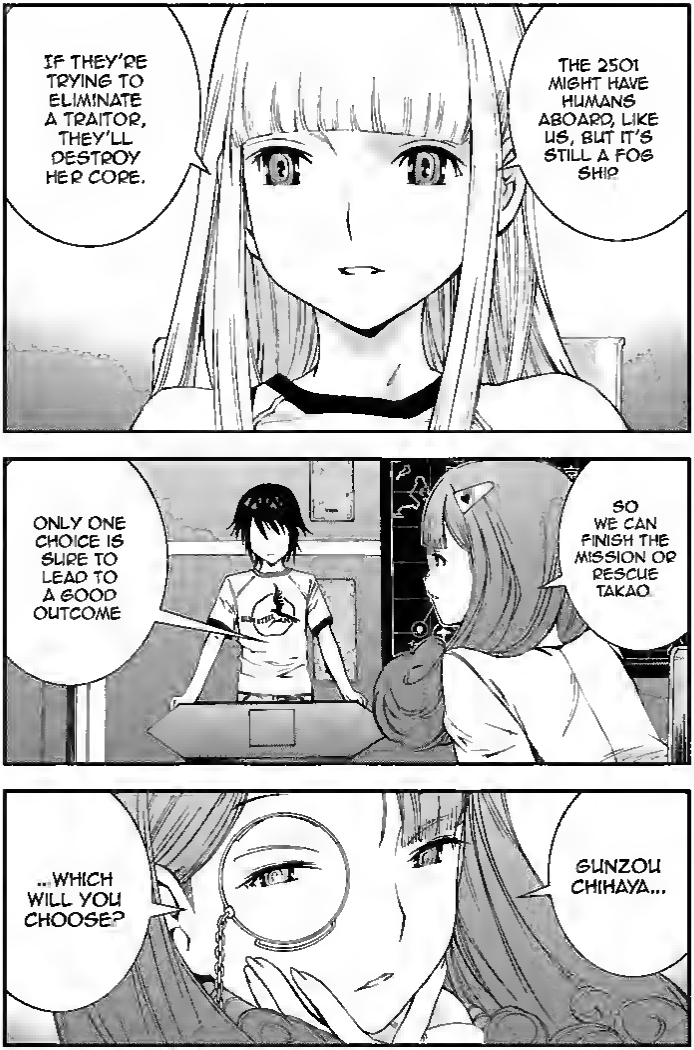
THE ISE, ONE OF THE SHIPS FROM MY OLD FLEET, MIGHT BE WITH HER TOO.
AND A DECENT NUMBER OF SUBMARINES, AS WELL.
FOR OUR PART, THE MODIFIED 401 IS VERY STRONG...
...BUT ALL SHE'LL HAVE WITH HER IS ONE DAMAGED HEAVY CRUISER...
...AND A SINGLE HAKUGEI-CLASS, WHICH CAN'T DO MUCH MORE THAN PROVIDE A DECOY.
IF WE GET CAUGHT UP IN A FIGHT WITH HER FLEET...
...THERE'S ESSENTIALLY NO CHANCE OF ESCAPE.

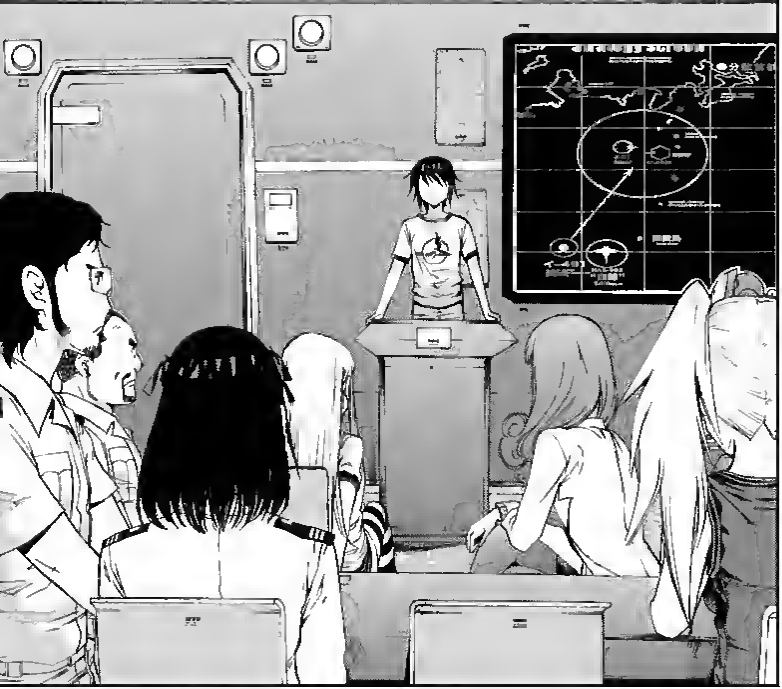

THAT'S HOW YOU GOT ME.
THAT'S RIGHT.
IF YOU CAN SINK A FOG FLEET'S FLAGSHIP, THE REST WILL ALL SHUT DOWN.
IT'LL BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO BREAK THROUGH THE FLAGSHIP'S ESCORT LINE
BUT THAT TRICK WON'T WORK AGAIN
STRONGLY
..YOU SUGGEST HEADING STRAIGHT TO AMERICA?
SO THEN...

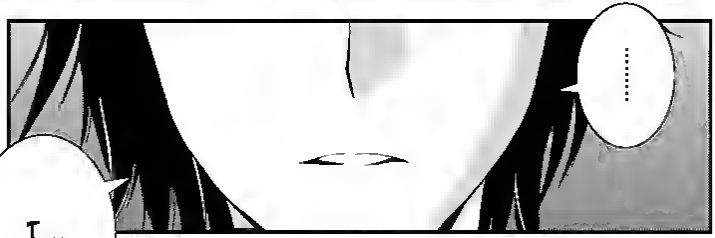
..THAT'S WELL WORTH THE LOSS OF ONE HEAVY CRUISER.
AND IF WE CAN GET OUT OF KONGOU'S PATROL ZONE WHILE TAKAO'S IN COMBAT..
.....
AND THERE'S A CHANCE THAT TAKAO WILL PULL THROUGH, TOO.
CAPTAIN?
WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS?

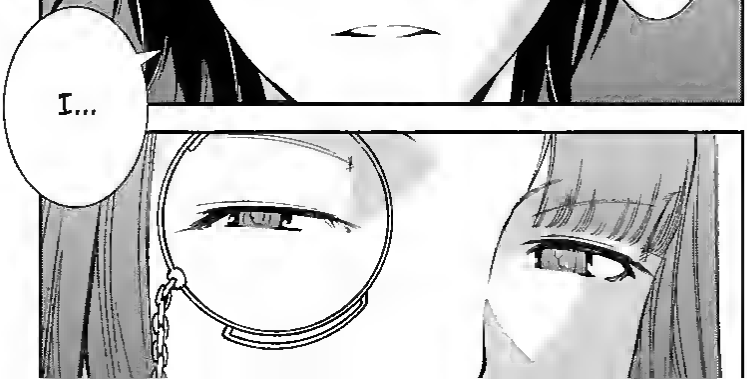
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT THE U-BOAT IS TRYING TO DO.
.....
AND THERE'S ALSO A CHANCE THAT IT'S DECIDED THAT TAKAO IS A TRAITOR TO THE FOG.
U-2501
. AND THUS IS TRYING TO ELIMINATE IT.
...AND IS TRYING TO INTERFERE...
IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT IT'S UNCOVERED OUR PLAN SOMEHOW...
...ONCE WE EXIT KONGOU'S PATROL AREA...
IF IT IS TRYING TO INTERFERE WITH OUR PLAN...

THAT MEANS IT'LL PROBABLY CALL OFF THE ATTACK
IT ONLY HAS SO MUCH AMMUNITION
..THERE WILL BE NO POINT IN SINKING HER.
BUT IF IT'S TRYING TO SINK TAKAO..
..THEN IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT WE DO.
IF HER CORE SURVIVES SHE COULD REGENERATE, BUT..
TAKAO MIGHT BE SUNK.

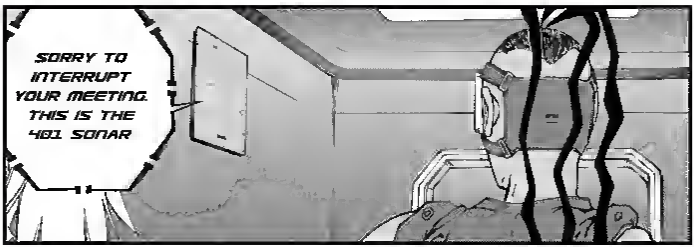

IF THEY'RE TRYING TO ELIMINATE A TRAITOR, THEY'LL DESTROY HER CORE.
THE 2501 MIGHT HAVE HUMANS ABOARD, LIKE US, BUT IT'S STILL A FOG SHIP
ONLY ONE CHOICE IS SURE TO LEAD TO A GOOD OUTCOME
SO WE CAN FINISH THE MISSION OR RESCUE TAKAO
...WHICH WILL YOU CHOOSE?
GUNZOU CHIHAYA...

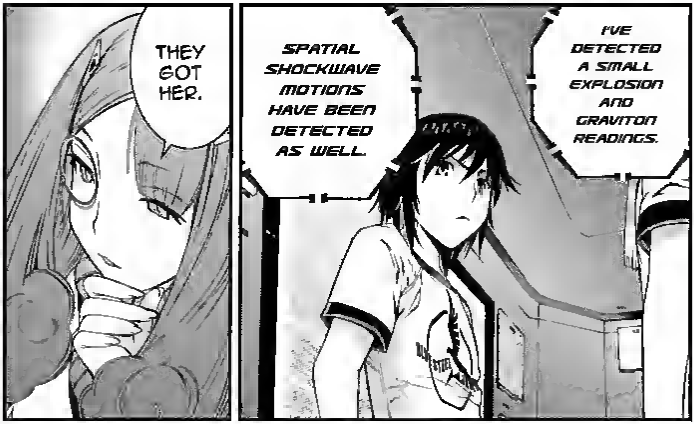



.....

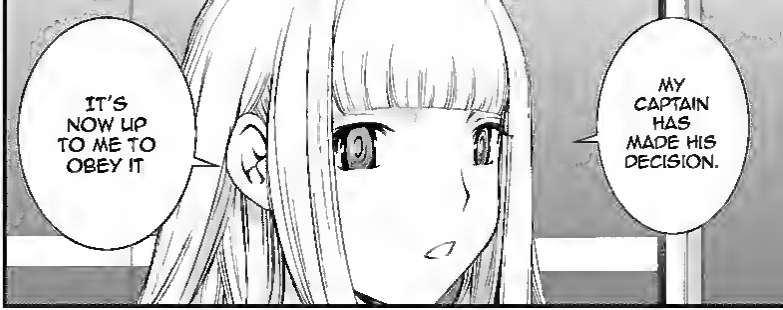

I...

I'M...
...NOT CHOOSING EITHER OPTION.
BLUE STEEL
#2! Get the engines ready!
GKRUT
THEN IT'S DECIDED!


SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOUR MEETING. THIS IS THE 481 SONAR


THEY GOT HER.
SPATIAL SHOCKWAVE MOTIONS HAVE BEEN DETECTED AS WELL.
I'VE DETECTED A SMALL EXPLOSION AND GRAVITON READINGS.

SQUEAK
SISTER?
IF SHE GOT THEM, SHE'D PROBABLY SEND US A BOASTFUL MESSAGE
SQUEAK
SQUEAK


MY CAPTAIN HAS MADE HIS DECISION.
IT'S NOW UP TO ME TO OBEY IT

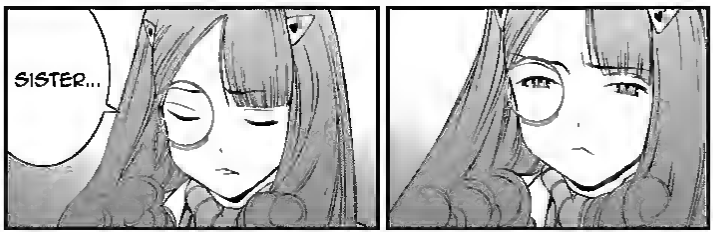
HIS DECISION?
HYUUGA...
...I WON'T PICK EITHER OPTION.

I'LL RESCUE TAKAO...
...AND ESCAPE KONGOU'S PATROL AREA.

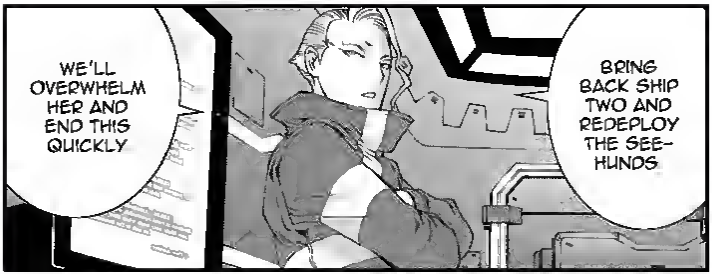
WITH THE 401, IT'S POSSIBLE
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
BUT...
HYUUGA
DURING THAT TIME TAKAO MIGHT
BUT IT'LL TAKE TEN MINUTES TO GET TO THE COMBAT AREA EVEN AT TOP SPEED
IT'S ALL RIGHT.

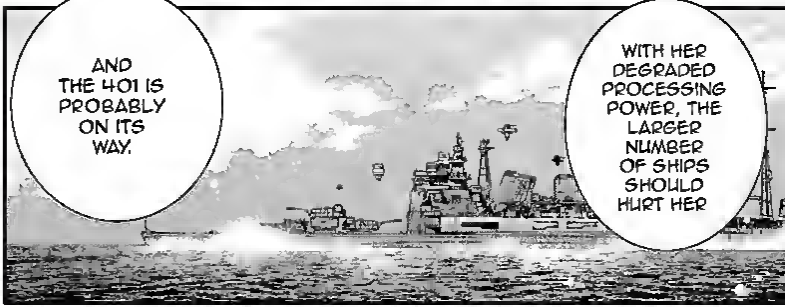
IF GUNZOU SAYS HE CAN DO IT, HE CAN DO IT.
AS HIS SHIP, IT'S MY JOB TO PROVE THAT.

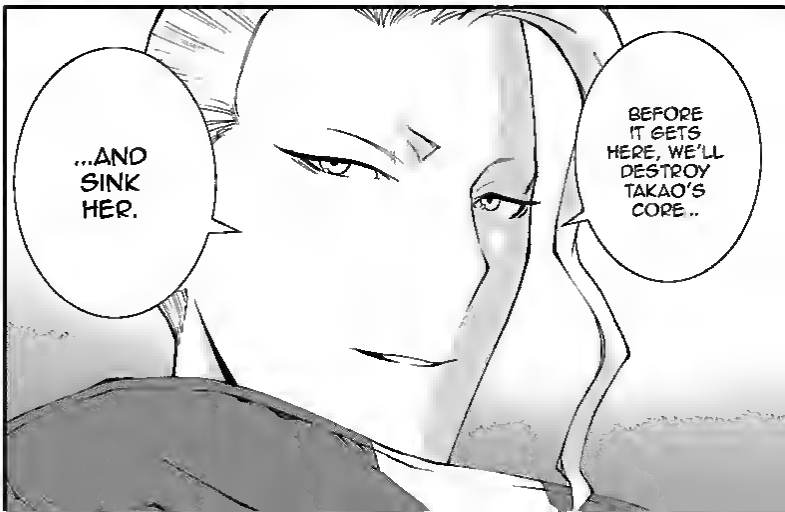
I'VE ALWAYS DONE THAT...
...AND I ALWAYS WILL.


SISTER...

VERY WELL.
AS YOU WISH.
TUMP
OKAY.
SQUEAK
LET'S DO THIS.
PING
WOLFS SYSTEM
SEEHUNDS HAVE RELOADED.
PING


WE'LL OVERWHELM HER AND END THIS QUICKLY
BRING BACK SHIP TWO AND REDEPLOY THE SEE-HUNDS


AND THE 401 IS PROBABLY ON ITS WAY.
WITH HER DEGRADED PROCESSING POWER, THE LARGER NUMBER OF SHIPS SHOULD HURT HER


...AND SINK HER.
BEFORE IT GETS HERE, WE'LL DESTROY TAKAO'S CORE..

HE'S A GOOD PERSON.
THAT'S THE KIND OF WEAK MAN GUNZOU CHIHAYA IS.
WHAT? THEY'RE COMING BACK?
. . AND I LIKE THAT. BUT..
YES...
HE'S A FOOL.

ズドドド

NO MATTER WHAT...
KWEEEEM
NO MATTER WHAT...
BOOM
I'LL PROTECT THAT DUMMY!
BOOM
BOOM
DETECTING EXPLOSIONS ABNORMAL SOUNDS COMING FROM TAKAO'S ENGINES.
WE'VE FINALLY HIT HER VITAL PARTS.

SPLASH
HOW... HOW CAN YOU CALL YOURSELF AN ESCORT SHIP...
.. IF YOU CAN'T EVEN CARRY OUT YOUR ADMIRAL'S ORDERS?
DON'T BE A PROUD FOOL, HEAVY CRUISER TAKAO!
ROAR
Depth:038／END

WE'LL REMAIN IN THIS AREA. .
...AND WAIT FOR YOU WHILE RUNNING SILENT.
Depth:039

IT SHOULDN'T TAKE THAT LONG.
I'M SORRY.
WE'LL WAIT A MONTH IF WE HAVE TO.

...THAT A WAR NEVER GOES THE WAY YOU EXPECT.
WE LEARNED IN THE GREAT NAVAL BATTLE.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

ONE MORE THING
UNDERSTOOD
WE'LL BE LEAVING RIGHT AWAY THEN
...IS SOMETHING KAMIKAZE ASKED US TO PASS ALONG TO YOU.
CLICK
THIS HERE...
?
, AS A CONDITION OF TAKING THIS JOB.
IT'S ONE OF THE THINGS YOU ASKED HIM FOR...

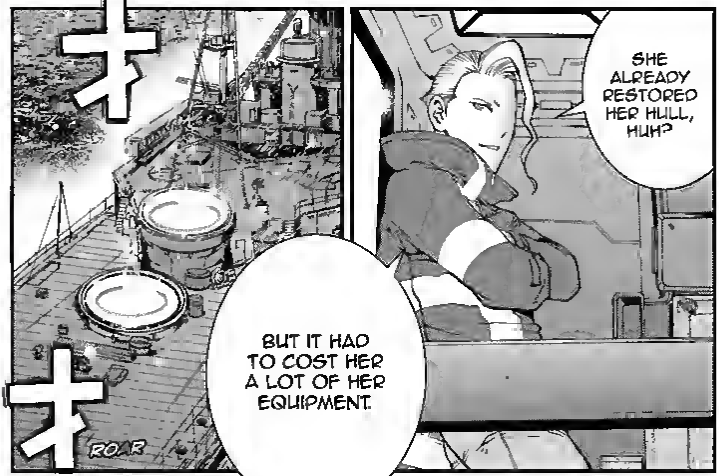
THIS IS A COPY OF THE SECURITY CAMERA FOOTAGE FROM FACILITY 4.
THIS IS...
FROM THAT DAY.
HE WAS GRANTED SPECIAL DISPENSATION TO DE-CLASSIFY IT.
...AND THEN ENTRUSTED IT TO ME
THANK YOU.

UNTIL NEXT TIME.
PSHOO
.....
LET'S GO, MISS HIBIKI.
THEY'RE LEAVING.
TILT

YEAH.
.....
DREEEEE
EEE.
Grr...

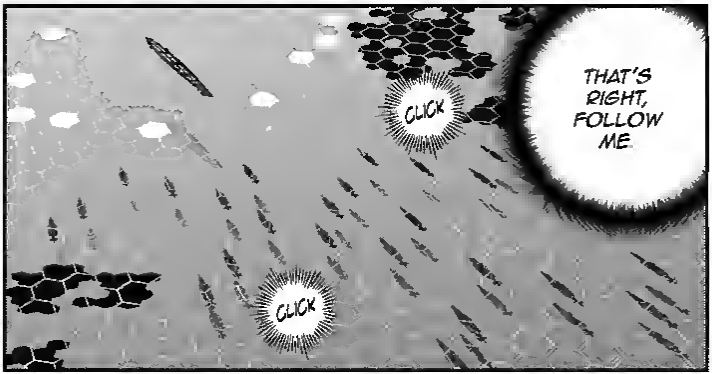
BOOM!
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK

TAKAO'S WAVE-FORCE ARMOR IS RESTARTING.
DETECTING KLEIN FIELD INDICATORS.

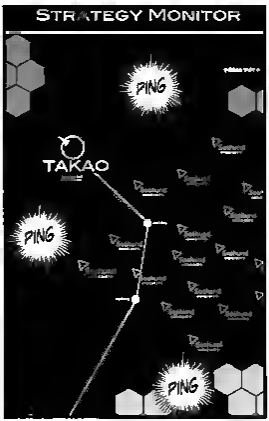

SHE ALREADY RESTORED HER HULL, HUH?
BUT IT HAD TO COST HER A LOT OF HER EQUIPMENT.
RO...R

WE'LL CRUSH HER.
MEASURE THE STRENGTH OF HER KLEIN FIELD
PIIING
THWOOOM

CLICK

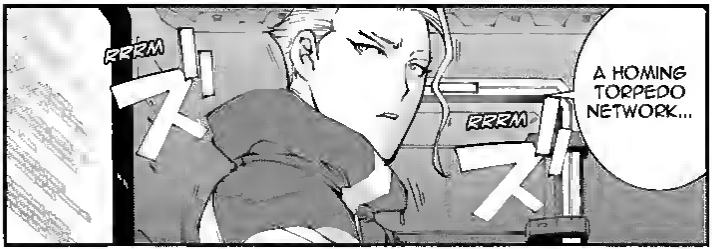

CLICK
THAT'S RIGHT, FOLLOW ME.
CLICK

THE WAY SHE'S MOVING...
WAIT...

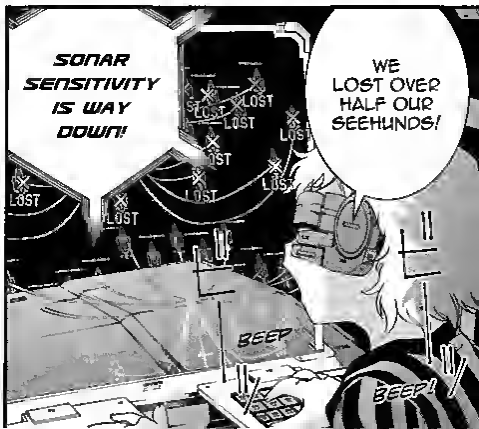

STRATEGY MONITOR
PING
TAKAO
PING
PING

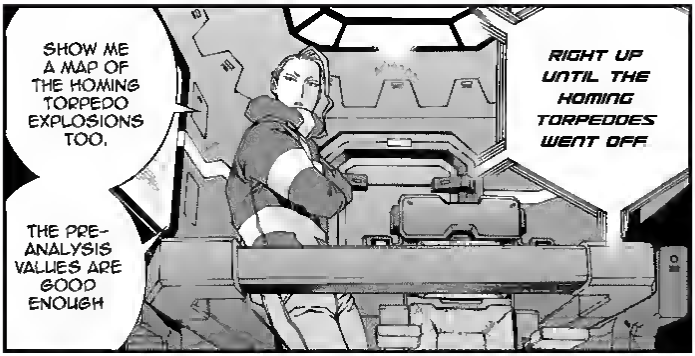
YOU MAY HAVE FIGURED IT OUT..
..BUT IT'S TOO LATE NOW!
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
CLUNK
CLUNK
BOOM
BOOM

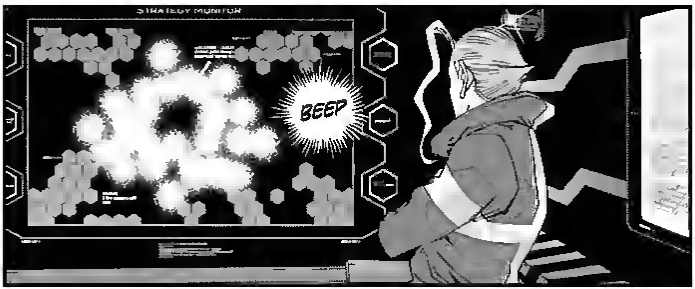
DREEEE

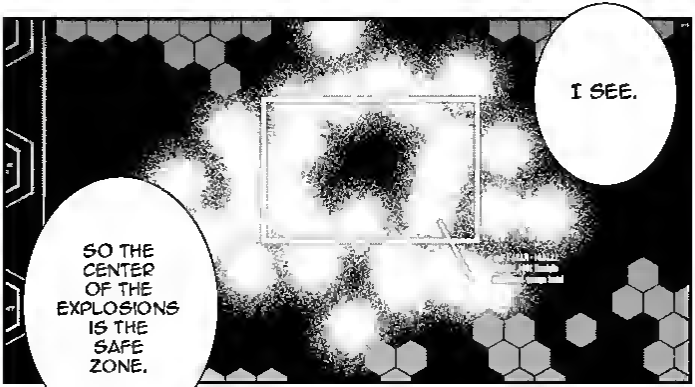

RRRM
RRRM
A HOMING TORPEDO NETWORK...

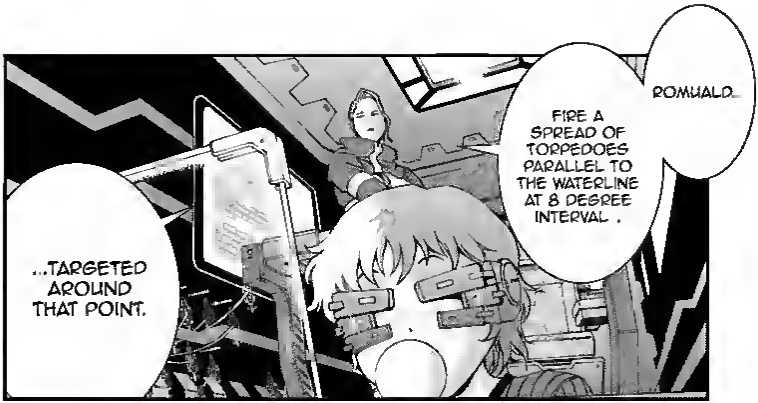
YOU'VE GOT TAKAO'S POSITION PLOTTED, RIGHT?
FRANCETTE
RRRM

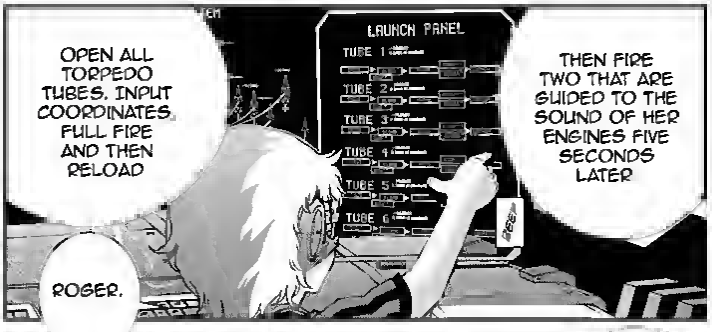

SONAR SENSITIVITY IS WAY DOWN!
WE LOST OVER HALF OUR SEEHUNDS!
LOST
BEEP
BEEP!


SHOW ME A MAP OF THE HOMING TORPEDO EXPLOSIONS TOO.
THE PRE-ANALYSIS VALUES ARE GOOD ENOUGH
RIGHT UP UNTIL THE HOMING TORPEDOES WENT OFF.


BEEP

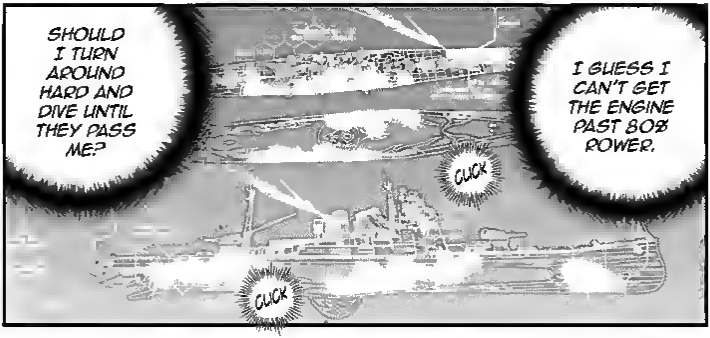

I SEE.
SO THE CENTER OF THE EXPLOSIONS IS THE SAFE ZONE.

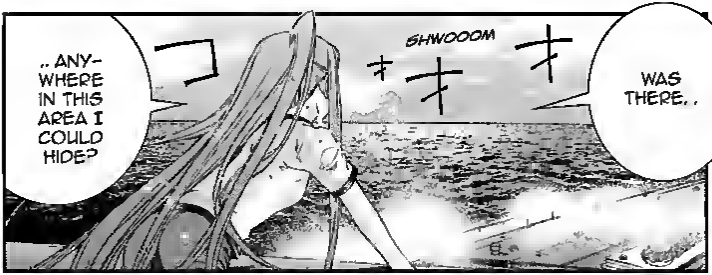

ROMUALD.
FIRE A SPREAD OF TORPEDOES PARALLEL TO THE WATERLINE AT 8 DEGREE INTERVAL .
...TARGETED AROUND THAT POINT.

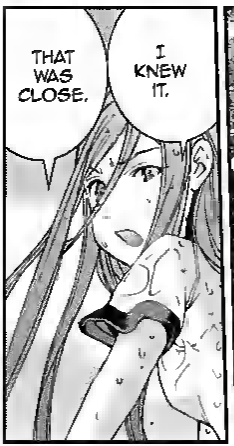

LAUNCH PANEL
TUBE 1
TUBE 2
TUBE 3
TUBE 4
TUBE 5
TUBE 6
FIRE
OPEN ALL TORPEDO TUBES. INPUT COORDINATES. FULL FIRE AND THEN RELOAD
THEN FIRE TWO THAT ARE GUIDED TO THE SOUND OF HER ENGINES FIVE SECONDS LATER
ROGER.

KROOM
KROOM
KROOM
IF WE CAN'T HEAR HER, SHE CAN'T HEAR US.
SHE'LL PAY FOR TAKING OUT OUR SEEHUNDS.

DID I OVERDO IT?
THIS ISN'T GOOD THE EXPLOSIONS ARE STOPPING ME FROM HEARING ANYTHING UNDER-WATER.
I ALWAYS TRY TO SAVE AMMO, IT'S A BAD HABIT OF MINE
I SHOULD'VE MADE MORE SONO-BUOYS
STARTING UP THE ENGINES.
VWEEEEM
THEY'RE GOING TO FIRE ON ME, PROBABLY.

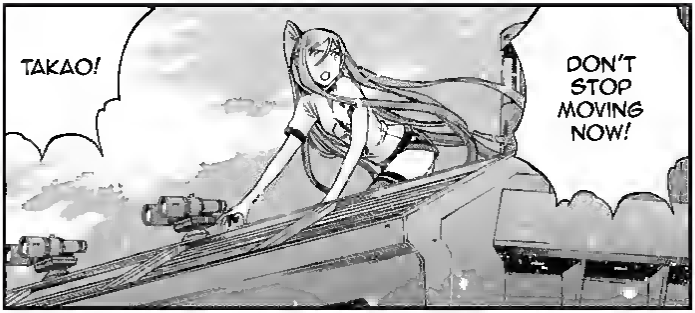

SHOULD I TURN AROUND HARD AND DIVE UNTIL THEY PASS ME?
I GUESS I CAN'T GET THE ENGINE PAST 80% POWER.
CLICK
CLICK

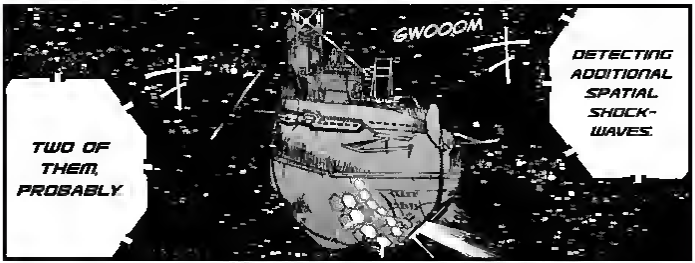

.. ANY-WHERE IN THIS AREA I COULD HIDE?
SHWOOOM
WAS THERE, .

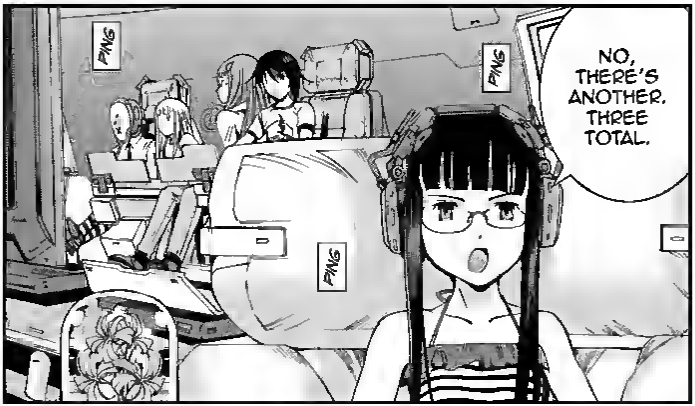

THAT WAS CLOSE.
I KNEW IT.

!!
FWOOSH
FWOOSH

KWOOOM
DWEEM
DWEEM
!!
AND I JUST REPAIRED THOSE, TOO!
DAMN IT!


TAKAO!
DON'T STOP MOVING NOW!


GWOOOM
DETECTING ADDITIONAL SPATIAL SHOCK-WAVES.
TWO OF THEM, PROBABLY.

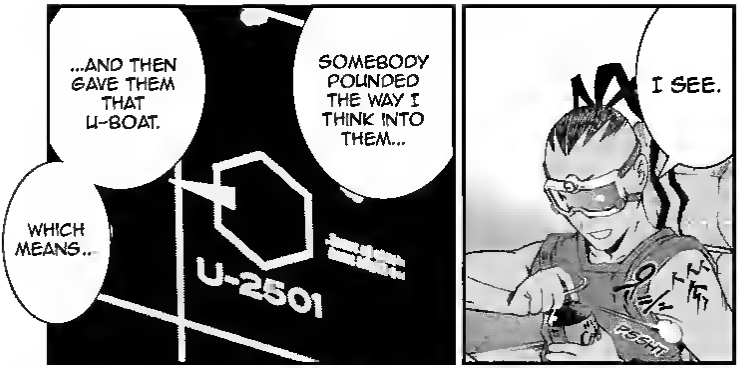

PING
PING
PING
NO, THERE'S ANOTHER. THREE TOTAL.

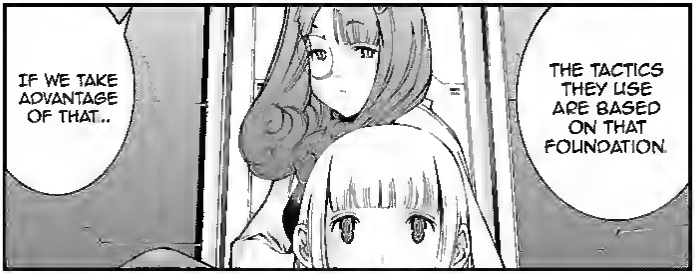
...TAKAO'S LIKELY TAKEN FOUR CORROSIVE TORPEDOES.
THIS MEANS...
NOTHING UP ON THE TACTICAL NETWORK, AS USUAL
A HEAVY CRUISER CAN'T KEEP A FIELD UP PAST THAT
IF THEY SPOT US, THE PLAN WON'T WORK
NO, WE'RE FINE.
SHALL WE GO FASTER?
CAPTAIN...

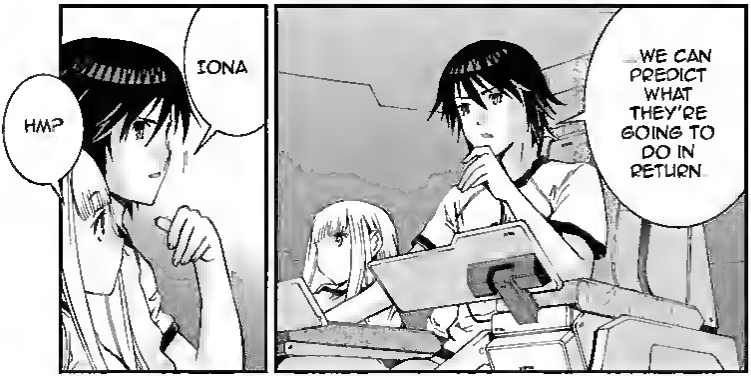
...THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM.
NO...
BUT AT 15 KNOTS, WILL TAKAO SURVIVE UNTIL WE GET THERE?
?
IT'S A COMBINATION OF DATA ON SALT CONTENT DISTRIBUTION FROM THE WEATHER SITES...
...AND THE ACOUSTIC READINGS FROM OUR SONAR.
ROGER.
THIS IS THE ESTIMATED CHART.
BRING UP THE SEA CURRENT CHART FOR THE AREA WHERE TAKAO AND THE U-BOAT ARE FIGHTING.

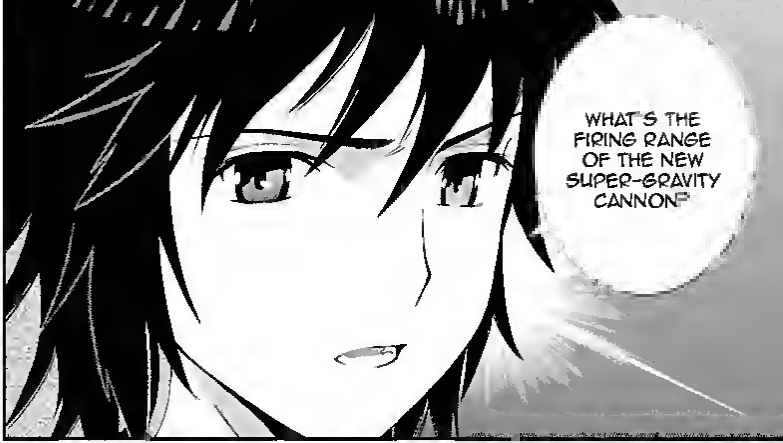
OVERLAY IT ON A MAP OF THE SEABED.
DEEP SEA MAP
BEEP
THIS DATA IS 18 YEARS OLD.
THERE'VE BEEN NO MAJOR UNDERSEA EARTHQUAKES IN THE AREA...
...SO IT'S PROBABLY STILL ACCURATE.
YEAH.
...WHEN THAT U-BOAT APPEARED?
DO YOU REMEMBER

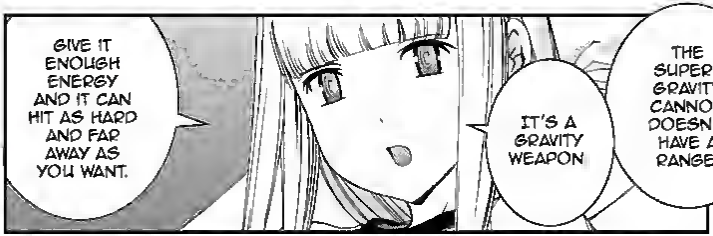
THEY ANTICIPATED OUR LOCATION...
...AND FIRED THE FIRST ROUND AT THAT SPOT.
THAT'S RIGHT.
THEY DIDN'T DETECT US...
...THEY FIRED A TORPEDO AT WHERE THEY PREDICTED WE'D BE.
IN OTHER WORDS...
...THEY KNOW HOW WE, THAT IS...
...HOW I, AS CAPTAIN, THINK TACTICALLY.


...AND THEN GAVE THEM THAT U-BOAT.
SOMEBODY POUNDED THE WAY I THINK INTO THEM...
WHICH MEANS..
U-2501
I SEE.


IF WE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THAT..
THE TACTICS THEY USE ARE BASED ON THAT FOUNDATION.


IONA
HM?
...WE CAN PREDICT WHAT THEY'RE GOING TO DO IN RETURN.

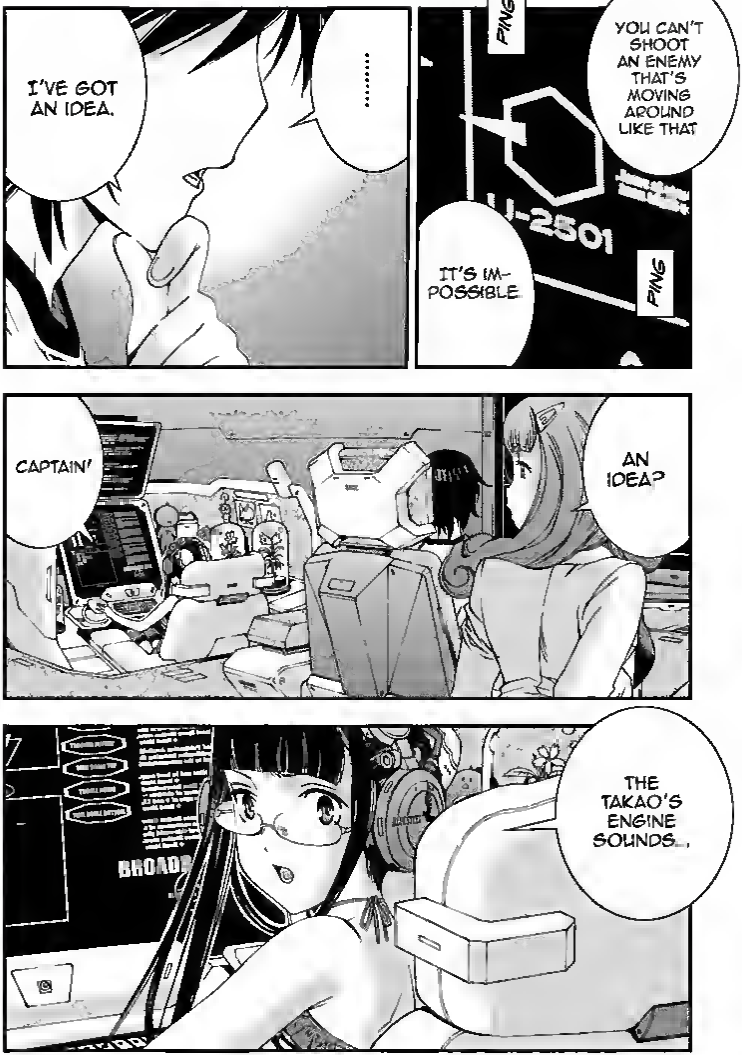

WHAT'S THE FIRING RANGE OF THE NEW SUPER-GRAVITY CANNON?


GIVE IT ENOUGH ENERGY AND IT CAN HIT AS HARD AND FAR AWAY AS YOU WANT.
IT'S A GRAVITY WEAPON
THE SUPER-GRAVITY CANNON DOESN'T HAVE A RANGE.

IT COULD PRODUCE A GRAVITON BEAM APPROXIMATELY ONE METER IN WIDTH AND 100 KM LONG.
SERIOUSLY? NOT AGAIN..

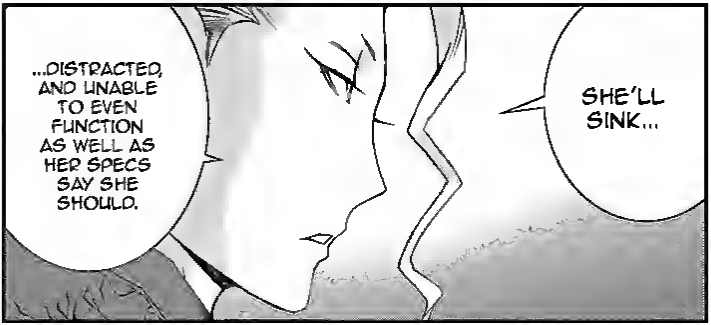
AND IF WE GAVE IT THE FULL POWER OF THE 401'S ENGINES?

AND IF WE TAKE OFF ALL THE LIMITERS...
...AND FIRE AT FULL POWER?
WAIT, YOU'RE JOKING, RIGHT?
140 KILO-METERS, MAYBE?
YOU CAN'T MEAN TO SNIPE THAT U-BOAT WITH THE SUPER-GRAVITY CANNON?
EVEN IF YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT LOSING POWER UNDERWATER...
...YOU STILL HAVE TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE EARTH'S MAGNETIC FIELD AND CURVATURE.


I'VE GOT AN IDEA.
.....
PING
YOU CAN'T SHOOT AN ENEMY THAT'S MOVING AROUND LIKE THAT
U-2501
IT'S IM-POSSIBLE
PING
CAPTAIN!
AN IDEA?
BROADB
THE TAKAO'S ENGINE SOUNDS...

KREEE
BOOM
Aaah!
THE FIELD'S LOST.
BOOM
I CAN'T RESTORE IT.

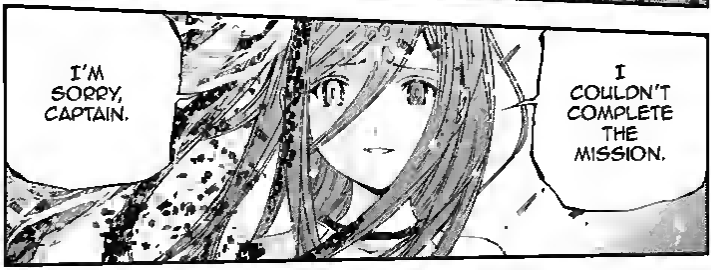
THAT'S THE LIMIT OF A SHIP WITH A MENTAL MODEL.
SHE CAN'T GO ON ANYMORE

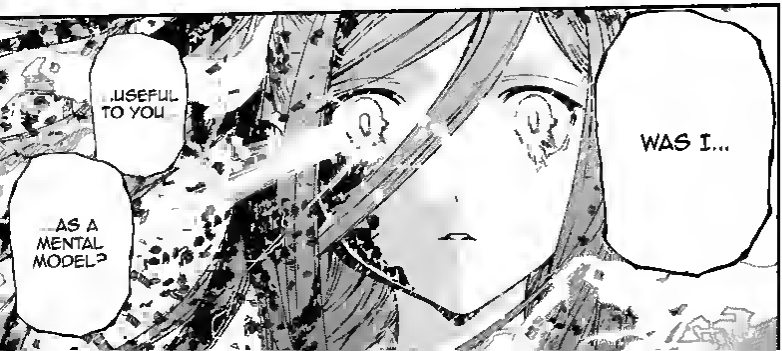

...DISTRACTED, AND UNABLE TO EVEN FUNCTION AS WELL AS HER SPECS SAY SHE SHOULD.
SHE'LL SINK...

FIRE ALL TORPEDOES
FROM THE REMAINING SEEHUNDS AS WELL.

KIRRRRR

ENGINE HIT. OUTPUT AT 348.
IS THIS IT FOR ME?

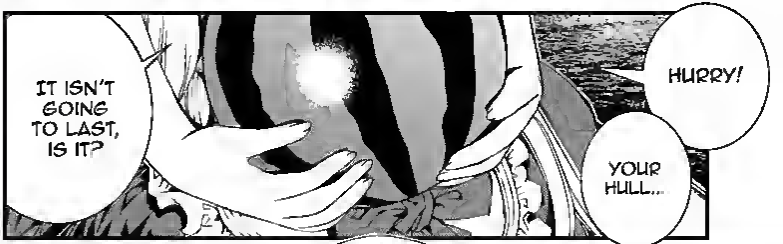

I COULDN'T COMPLETE THE MISSION.
I'M SORRY, CAPTAIN.


WAS I...
USEFUL TO YOU
AS A MENTAL MODEL?

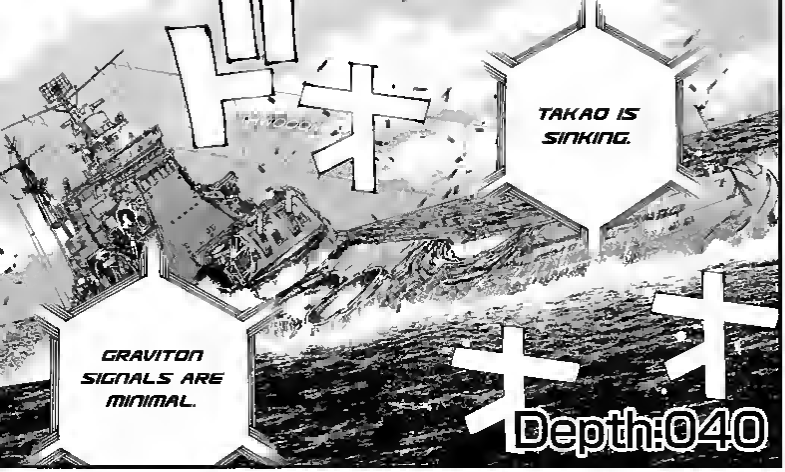
IF ONLY...
...I COULD USE MY SUPER-GRAVITY CANNON...
THEN...
...YOU SHOULD USE IT.

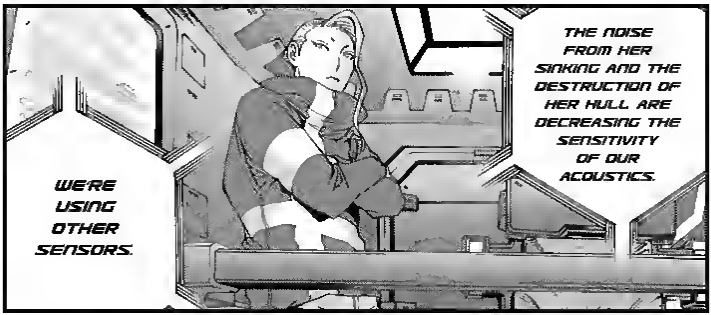
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE PLANNING.
...BUT GIVE ME THE CONTROL CODES FOR THE DUMMY
I'LL TAKE OVER.
...402?

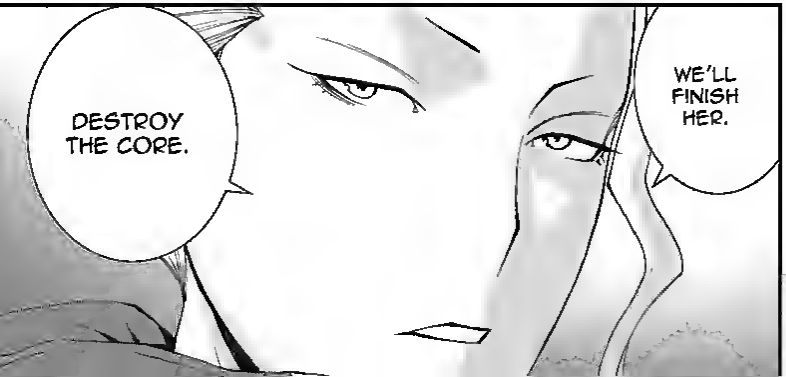
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?


IT ISN'T GOING TO LAST, IS IT?
HURRY!
YOUR HULL...

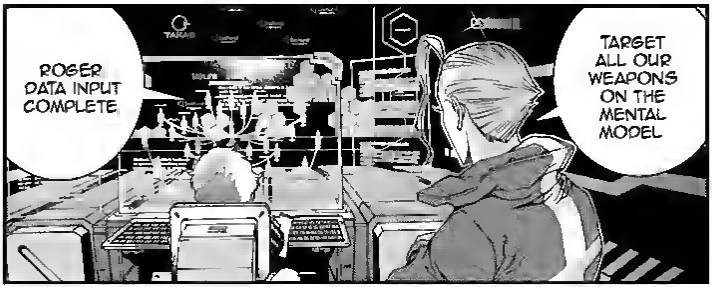
SHWOOM
Depth:039／END

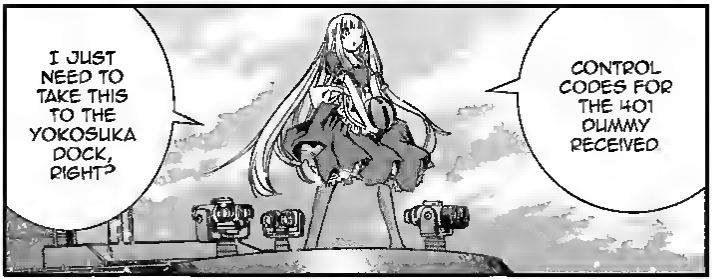

TAKAO IS SINKING.
GRAVITON SIGNALS ARE MINIMAL.
Depth:040

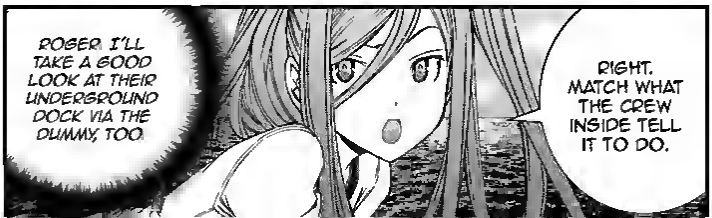

THE NOISE FROM HER SINKING AND THE DESTRUCTION OF HER HULL ARE DECREASING THE SENSITIVITY OF OUR ACOUSTICS.
WE'RE USING OTHER SENSORS.


DESTROY THE CORE.
WE'LL FINISH HER.

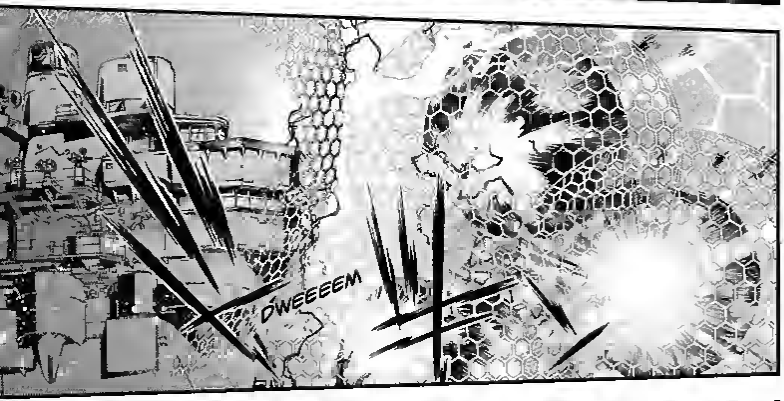
THE SIGNAL FLOW IS CENTERING ON THE MENTAL MODEL
DATA MATRIX
BEEP
BEEP
THIS IS THE TAKAO'S DATA MATRIX


ROGER. DATA INPUT COMPLETE
TARGET ALL OUR WEAPONS ON THE MENTAL MODEL


I JUST NEED TO TAKE THIS TO THE YOKOSUKA DOCK, RIGHT?
CONTROL CODES FOR THE 401 DUMMY RECEIVED

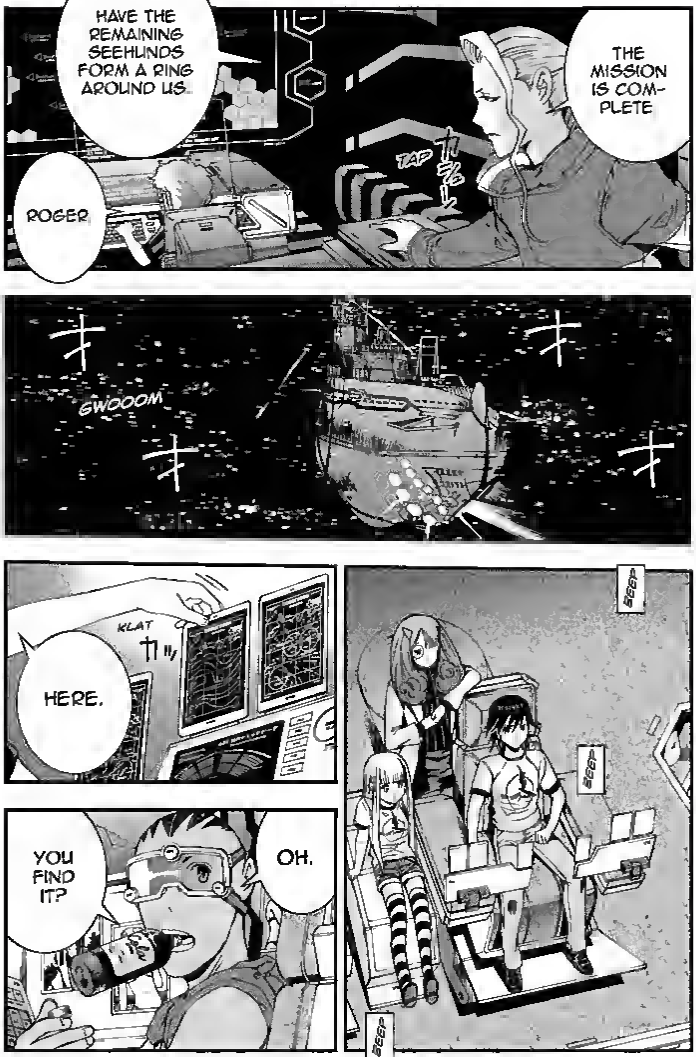

ROGER. I'LL TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT THEIR UNDERGROUND DOCK VIA THE DUMMY, TOO.
RIGHT. MATCH WHAT THE CREW INSIDE TELL IT TO DO.

BA-BOOM
HERE IT COMES!

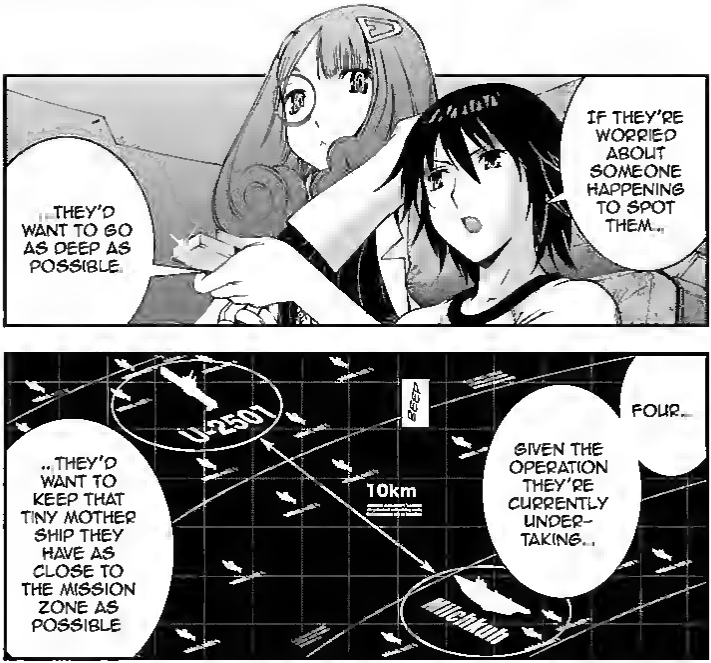

DWEEEEM

KREEEE

THIS IS ROUGH.
KREEEE
MAN...
THOOM
THOOM
WE GOT HER, HUH?
ALL WARHEADS HAVE DETONATED. TAKAO'S HULL IS COLLAPSING FASTER

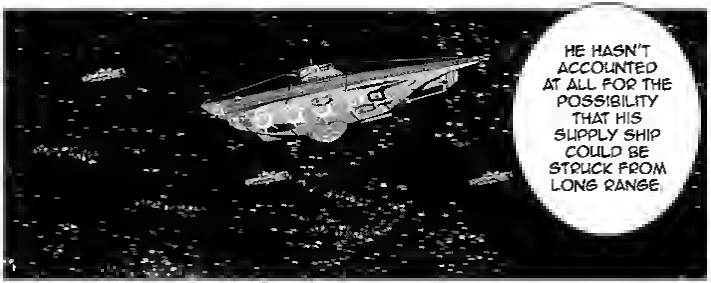

HAVE THE REMAINING SEEHUNDS FORM A RING AROUND US.
ROGER
THE MISSION IS COMPLETE
TAP
GWOOOM
KLAT
HERE.
YOU FIND IT?
OH.
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP

WHY DO YOU THINK THAT?
FOUR REASONS.
AT A DEPTH OF 256 METERS.
BEEP
THEY'RE JUST ABOVE THIS SMALL DEPRESSION ON THE SEA FLOOR HERE
...AND THIS IS THE ONE AREA WHERE THEY'RE RELATIVELY PREDICTABLE.
CURRENT SPEED
BEEP
U-250
PREDICTED LOCATION
DEPTH 50m
ONE.
THE SEA CURRENTS IN THIS AREA ARE COMPLEX...
1200
1300
1400
THREE...
depth--1500
...THERE'S A THERMOCLINE AT AROUND 150 METERS IN THIS AREA
BEEP
U-251
U-250
TWO.
IN AN EMERGENCY, THEY CAN DIVE INTO THAT LITTLE DEPRESSION..
AND ACTIVE SONAR WILL HAVE A HARD TIME FINDING THEM
BEEP

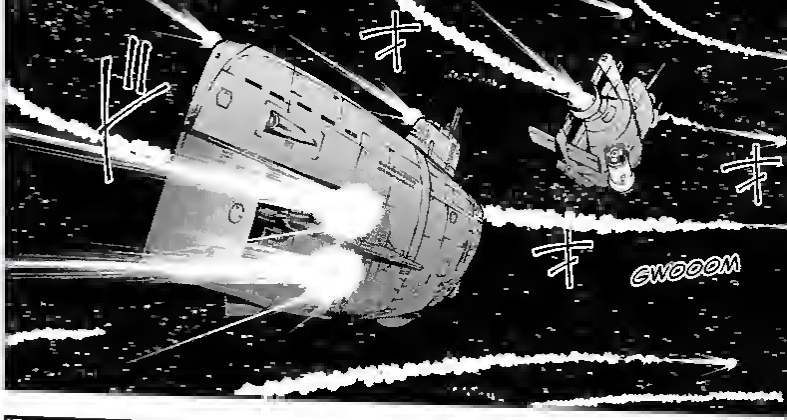

IF THEY'RE WORRIED ABOUT SOMEONE HAPPENING TO SPOT THEM...
...THEY'D WANT TO GO AS DEEP AS POSSIBLE.
FOUR...
GIVEN THE OPERATION THEY'RE CURRENTLY UNDER-TAKING...
..THEY'D WANT TO KEEP THAT TINY MOTHER SHIP THEY HAVE AS CLOSE TO THE MISSION ZONE AS POSSIBLE
U-250
10km
Hachikoh
...IN CASE THEY NEED TO RELOAD THE MINI-SUBS' TORPEDOES
THEY'RE PROBABLY KEEPING IT AT A SPECIFIC DEPTH...
SO YOU'RE TRYING TO HIT...
I SEE.

THEIR SUPPLY SHIP...
...THE MILCHKUH.

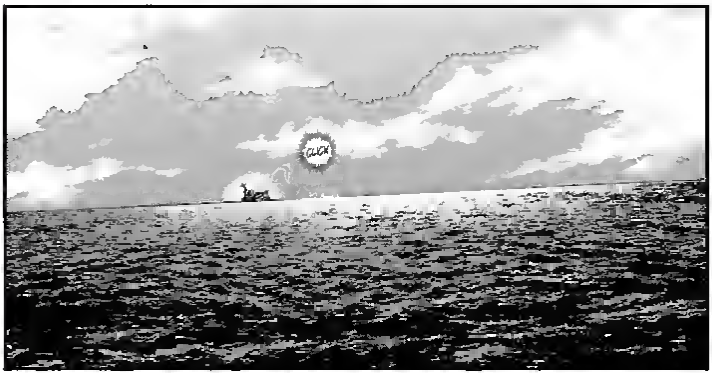
AND CAPTAIN ZOLDAN HAS NO IDEA WE'VE GOT A NEW SUPER-GRAVITY CANNON.
YES. THAT THING CAN'T BE MOVED DURING THE MISSION.


HE HASN'T ACCOUNTED AT ALL FOR THE POSSIBILITY THAT HIS SUPPLY SHIP COULD BE STRUCK FROM LONG RANGE.

IF HE'S BEEN TRAINED TO THINK THE WAY I DO...
.. HE'LL PUT THE SUPPLY SHIP WHERE IT'LL BE MOST EFFECTIVE FOR THE MISSION
I'M DETECTING MORE SPATIAL SHOCK-WAVES.
ANOTHER CORROSIVE TORPEDO HAS GONE OFF
LET'S DO THIS!
ROGER.


GWOOOM

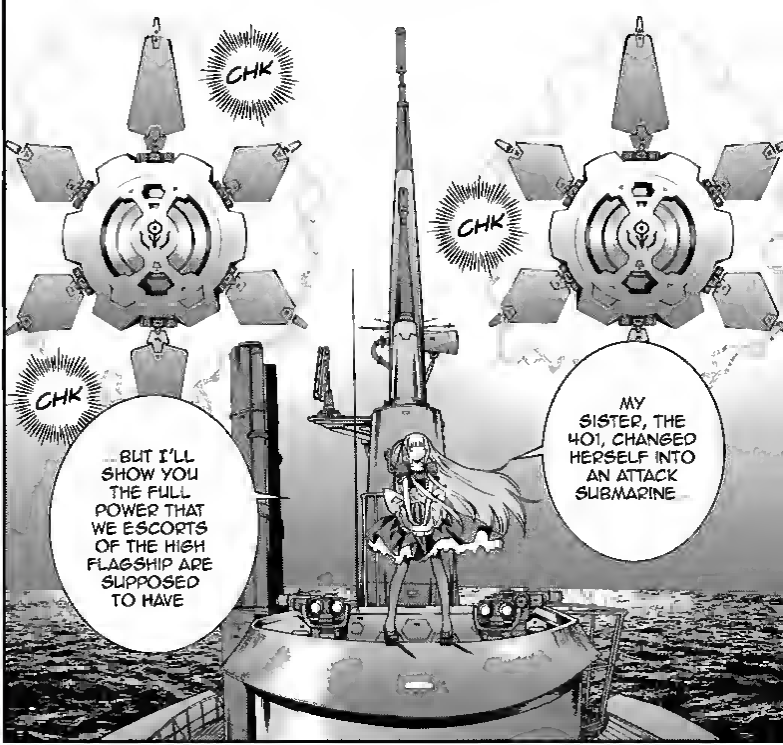
WE TOOK WORSE DAMAGE THAN I THOUGHT
HMMM.

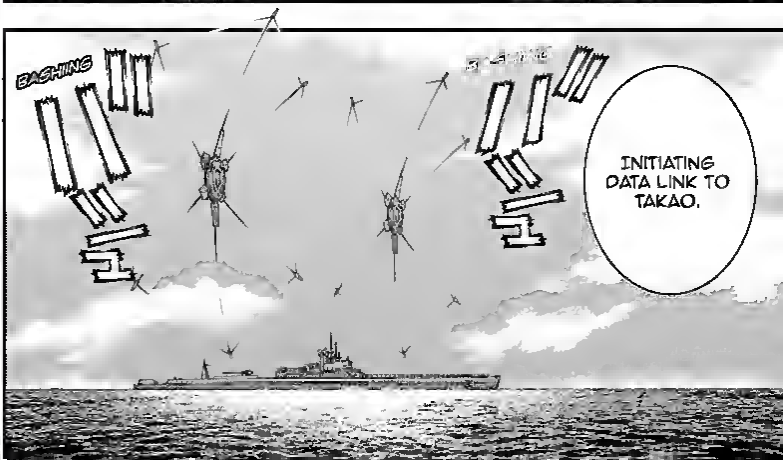

GLUG

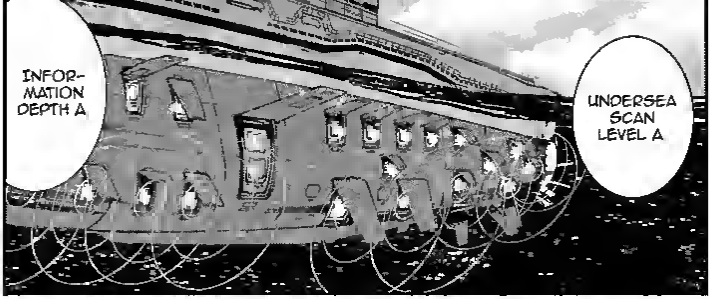
THE TAKAO'S ENGINE IS GETTING LOUDER!
WAIT!
!
KLANG
KLANG
KLONG
IF YOU THOUGHT A SHIP'S CORE WAS ALWAYS CARRIED INSIDE ITS MENTAL MODEL, YOU WERE DEAD WRONG.
TOO BAD FOR YOU!
KLONG

KWEEEM
YOU PROBABLY ANALYZED MY INFORMATION MATRIX.
BUT WHEN YOU'VE GOT AS MANY EXPERIENCE POINTS AS I DO, THAT'S EASY TO FAKE.

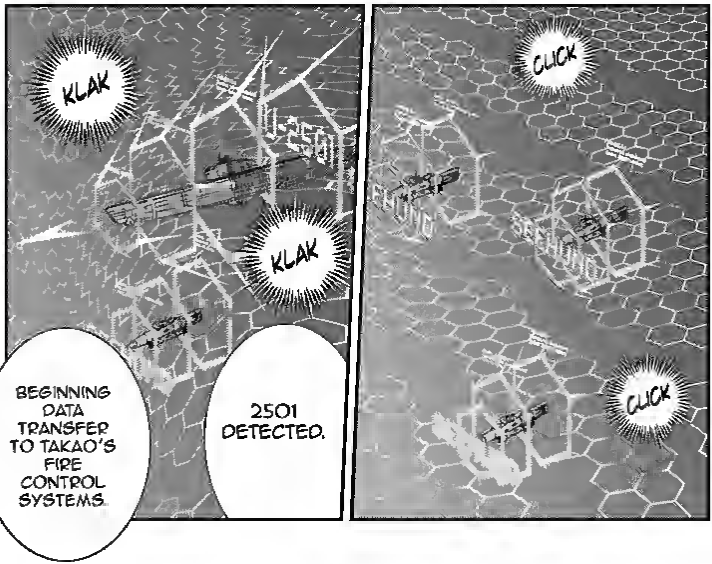
EVASIVE MANEUVERS! FULL SPEED!
CLUTCH
MAXIMUM DOWN TRIM!
GROOOOM
OH, DARN.
I FOCUSED ON GETTING MY ENERGY AND TARGETTING SYSTEMS REPAIRED FIRST, SO I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH SENSORS
WHERE'S THE 2501?
YOU'RE SUCH A BOTHER


CHK
CHK
CHK
...BUT I'LL SHOW YOU THE FULL POWER THAT WE ESCORTS OF THE HIGH FLAGSHIP ARE SUPPOSED TO HAVE
MY SISTER, THE 401, CHANGED HERSELF INTO AN ATTACK SUBMARINE


BASHING
INITIATING DATA LINK TO TAKAO.


INFOR-
MATION
DEPTH A
UNDERSEA
SCAN
LEVEL A

BEGINNING
SCAN.
KOOM
KOOM
KOOM


KLAK
KLAK
CLICK
CLICK
BEGINNING
DATA
TRANSFER
TO TAKAO'S
FIRE
CONTROL
SYSTEMS.
2501
DETECTED.

JUST HURRY UP AND FIRE.
I HAVE AN ERRAND TO RUN.
OOOH! YOU'RE OVER BY YOKOSUKA, RIGHT? YOU MUST HAVE THE SCANNING ABILITIES OF A SUPER-BATTLESHIP!
THROOOM

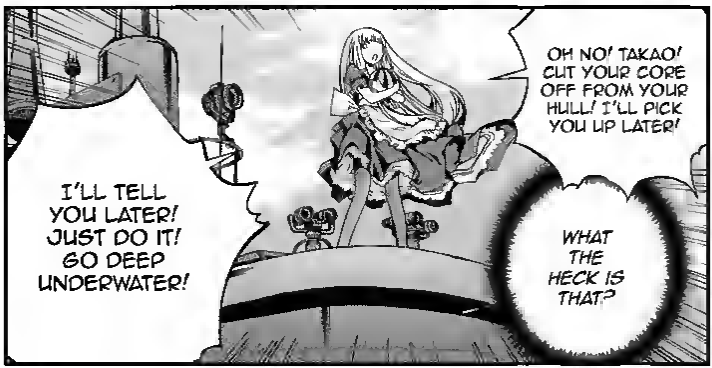
YOU'RE GOING DOWN, BOYS!
OKAY!

FLASH
BZRAK

WHAT IS THAT?
!!
KREE
CLICK
THIS IS...
CLICK

A MIRROR RING SYSTEM?

YOU MAKE ME WANT TO HATE MYSELF.
RRRM
RRRM
HEAVY CRUISER TAKAO. YOU'VE GONE FAR BEYOND MY EXPECTATIONS.
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU FORCED ME TO REVEAL THIS TOO..
RRRM


OH NO! TAKAO! CUT YOUR CORE OFF FROM YOUR HULL! I'LL PICK YOU UP LATER!
I'LL TELL YOU LATER! JUST DO IT! GO DEEP UNDERWATER!
WHAT THE HECK IS THAT?

KREEE
IN ORDER TO DISSIPATE THE ENERGY HE ABSORBED FROM THE SUPER-GRAVITY CANNON, HE'S GOING TO CAUSE IT TO PHASE CHANGE INTO ANOTHER DIMENSION'S SPACE-TIME!
IF YOU GET CAUGHT UP IN THE SHOCKWAVE, YOU'RE DONE FOR!
THOOM

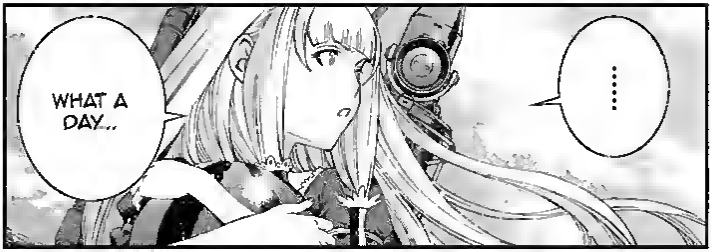
ゴ
RUMBLE

ドドド
BOOM

THWOOM
WHY DON'T YOU ABANDON YOUR MENTAL MODEL?
SHUT DOWN YOUR CORE COMPLETELY! THEY'LL FIND YOU!
BUT THIS IS...
THIS IS...

MY...
BLUE STEEL
GWOOM

WHEN WE GET BACK WE'LL NEED TO DO AN OVERHAUL.
RRRM
RRRM
THE MIRROR RING SYSTEM'S DOWN.
I KNOW THAT.
RRRM
RRRM
.....
DETECTING A LARGE GRAVITY WAVE.
IT... IT'S HUGE!
ROMUALD! FIRE EVERYTHING YOU CAN AT THAT MENTAL MODEL!
RRRM
RRRM
DETECTING TAKAO'S DATA MATRIX AGAIN. WE'VE RECAPTURED HER MENTAL MODEL.
INPUTTING COORDI-NATES.


WHAT A DAY...
.....

THE EARTH CAN'T SURVIVE TOO MANY LIKE THIS.

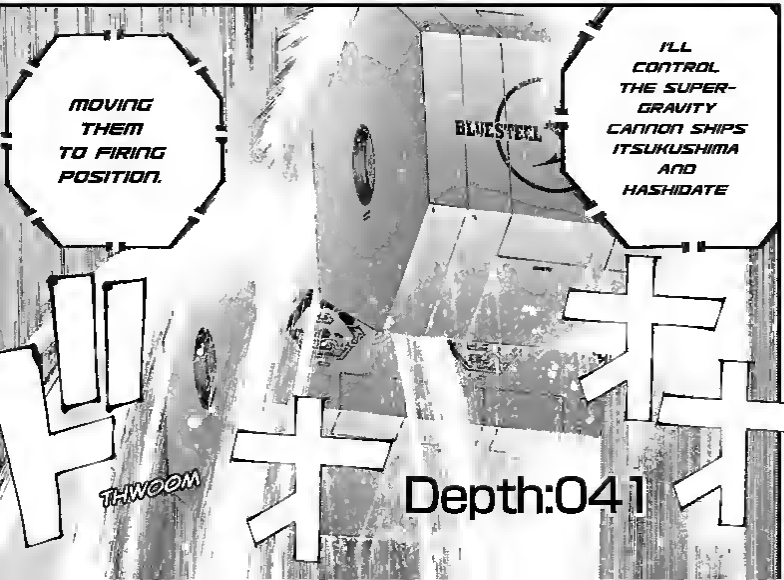
MOVE THE NEW SUPER-GRAVITY CANNON INTO FIRING POSITION!
I'LL CONTROL THE SUPER-GRAVITY CANNON SHIPS ITSUKUSHIMA AND HASHIDATE.
CLICK
MOVING THEM TO FIRING POSITION.
CLICK
CLICK
INITIATING LINK-UP WITH SUPER-GRAVITY CANNON SHIPS.
CLICK
CLICK
ENGAGE.

CLICK
ALL SYSTEMS ON ALL SHIPS ARE LINKED.
CLICK
ENGAGING. MIKASA TACTICAL SYSTEM ACTIVATED.
CLICK
CLICK
401 ENGINE OUTPUT IS AT 1408.
CLICK
RELEASE ALL LIMITERS.
SHIP CONDITIONS ALL GREEN
SUPPLE-MENTARY CIRCUITS ACTIVATED. ALL SAFETIES RELEASED
ROGER. RELEASING LIMITERS.

Depth:040 / END

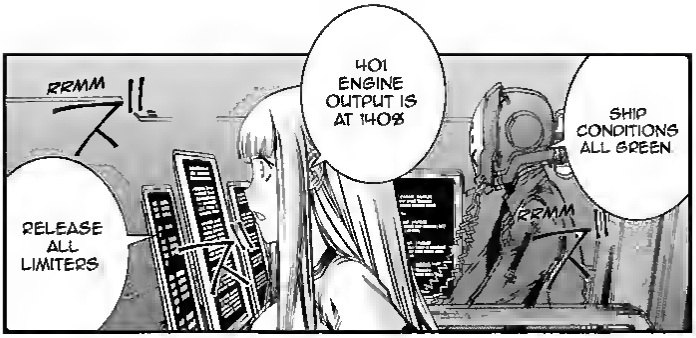
IF IT HAD BEEN DESTROYED I'D KNOW IMMEDIATELY.
I'M DESIGNATED AS HER FLAGSHIP.
RRRM
IS HEAVY CRUISER TAKAO'S CORE STILL SAFE?
TAKAO'S CORE IS STILL SAFE.
RRRM

MOVE THE NEW SUPER-GRAVITY CANNON TO THE FIRING POSITION!
OKAY!

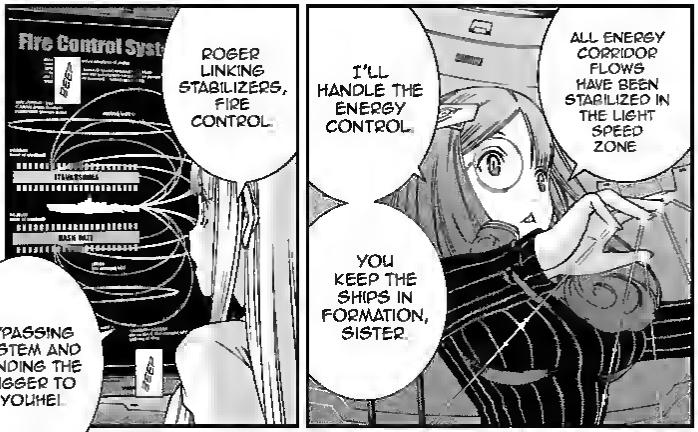

MOVING THEM TO FIRING POSITION.
I'LL CONTROL THE SUPER-GRAVITY CANNON SHIPS ITSUKUSHIMA AND HASHIDATE
BLUESTEEL
THWOOM

Depth:041

KREEE
ALL SYSTEMS ON ALL SHIPS ARE LINKED.
401 IS DEPLOYING FULL TO LINK WITH THE SUPER-GRAVITY CANNON SHIPS.
ENGAGE.
KA-GOOOM
ACTIVATING THE MIKASA TACTICAL SYSTEM.
GROOM
GROOM

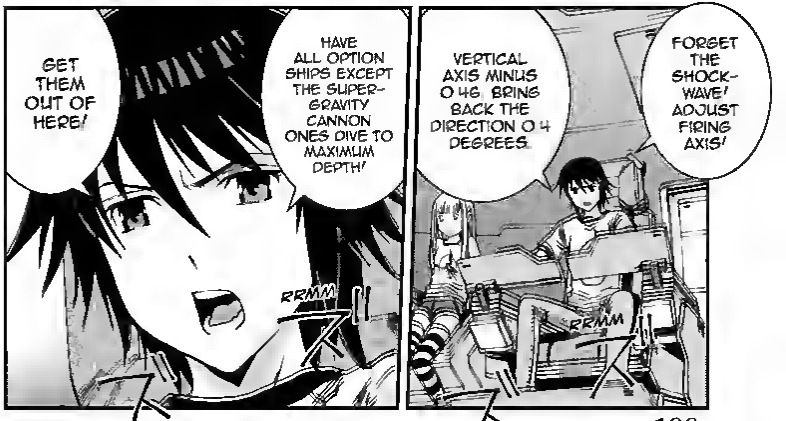

RRMM
401 ENGINE OUTPUT IS AT 140%
SHIP CONDITIONS ALL GREEN
RRMM
RELEASE ALL LIMITERS

RELEASING LIMITERS. SUPPLEMENTARY CIRCUITS ACTIVATED
ROGER
ALL SAFETIES RELEASED.


Fire Control Syst
ROGER LINKING STABILIZERS, FIRE CONTROL.
I'LL HANDLE THE ENERGY CONTROL.
ALL ENERGY CORRIDOR FLOWS HAVE BEEN STABILIZED IN THE LIGHT SPEED ZONE
YOU KEEP THE SHIPS IN FORMATION, SISTER.
BYPASSING SYSTEM AND SENDING THE TRIGGER TO KYOUHEI.

THAT'S PRETTY SOON!
IT'S HEADING RIGHT FOR US! IT'LL BE HERE IN 46 SECONDS!
CAPTAIN! I'M SEEING A BIGGER SPATIAL SHOCKWAVE THEN WE'VE EVER SEEN!
!!
RUMBLE

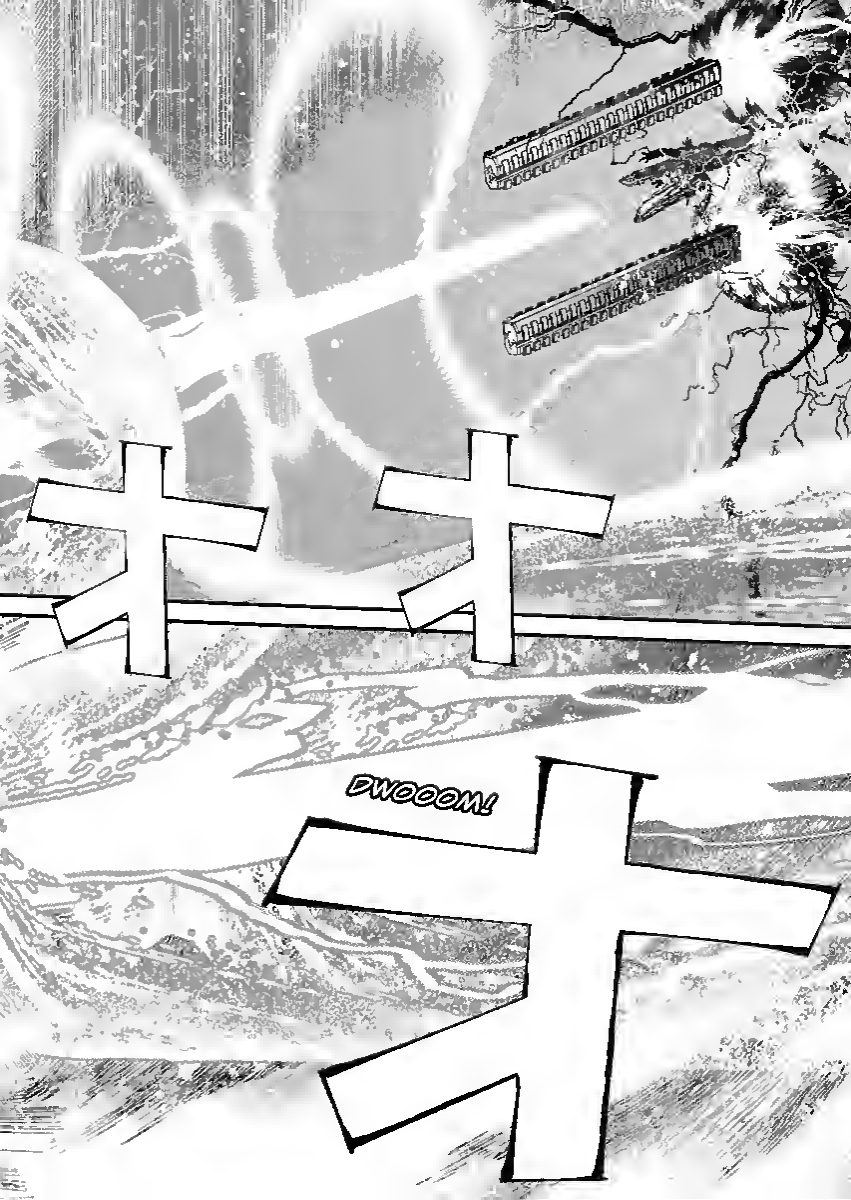
THE OPTION SHIPS ARE ALL STANDING BY.
WE SHOULD CANCEL THE FIRING SEQUENCE AND REDIRECT ALL OUR ENERGY TO THE KLEIN FIELD!
A SHOCK-WAVE?


GET THEM OUT OF HERE!
HAVE ALL OPTION SHIPS EXCEPT THE SUPER-GRAVITY CANNON ONES DIVE TO MAXIMUM DEPTH!
RRMM
VERTICAL AXIS MINUS 046 BRING BACK THE DIRECTION 04 DEGREES.
FORGET THE SHOCK-WAVE! ADJUST FIRING AXIS!
RRMM

SO THAT'S WHAT THE 401 IS AFTER.
I SEE.
...I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO HELP.
CLICK
CLICK
BUT THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO ADJUST FOR THE SPATIAL DISTORTION THE 2501 IS CREATING
WHAT'S GOING ON?
CLICK
CLICK
HUH? 402 IS SENDING US OBSERVATIONAL DATA ON THE MILCHKUH.
CLICK
CAN WE TRUST HER?
RRRMM
WE'LL WORRY ABOUT THAT LATER!
ROGER
RRM
INPUT HER OBSERVATIONAL DATA!

MOVING TO FIRING POSITION!
ROGER!
RRMMM
RRMM
SHOCKWAVE INCOMING!

BLOW THROUGH THE SHOCKWAVE!
ZRRRMM
FIRE THE NEW SUPER-GRAVITY CANNON!


DWOOOM!

ドオ
OOOOOM!

ドオオ
DWOOOM

!
ドオン
OOOM

THE MILCHKUH?!
IT'S NOT AIMED AT US!
A SUPER-GRAVITY CANNON?
ZRRRRM
THE SEA.. IT'S SPLIT-TING!
ZOLDAN!

DREEEEM

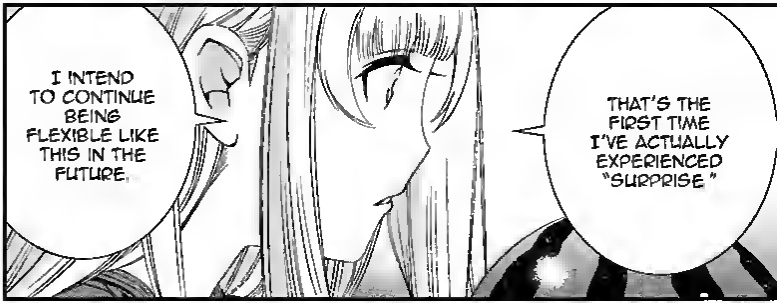
WHAT... WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?
ZRRM
WE'VE LOST ALL CONTACT FROM THE MILCHKUH.
... THAT COULD FIRE A SUPER-GRAVITY CANNON THAT SIZE AROUND HERE!
THERE WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO BE ANY SHIPS...
...OUR OTHER SENSORS ARE MUCH LESS PRECISE!
AND BECAUSE WE USED THE MIRROR RING SYSTEM...
THE ACOUSTIC SYSTEMS ARE 100% OFFLINE!

ZOLDAN...
……
ズ
ズ
LEAVING THIS SEA AREA.
ROGER
CLICK
CLICK
THE 2501 WILL WITHDRAW FROM THIS AREA
PSHOO
WOHSA

THWOOOM
IT'S FINALLY CALMED DOWN
NOW THEN..
HOW MUCH OBSERVATIONAL DATA DID I GET?
FIRST, I PROMISED TO DELIVER THAT DUMMY.
402 TO 400.
CLICK
CLICK

I'LL BE UPLOADING MY MOVEMENTS IN REAL TIME TO THE FLAG FLEET NETWORK.
KEEP AN EYE ON THEM AS YOU ACT.
THIS IS 400
I'M RUNNING LATE ON MY ERRAND
THE HIGH FLAGSHIP WAS RIGHT
IT'S WORTH CHANGING UP THE PLAN ONCE IN A WHILE
ROGER YOU GOT TO SEE SOMETHING INTERESTING, HUH?
THE MIRROR RING SYSTEM WAS ORIGINALLY ONLY SUPPOSED TO BE EQUIPPED ON YAMATO-CLASS SHIPS.
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE OBSERVED IT IN USE.

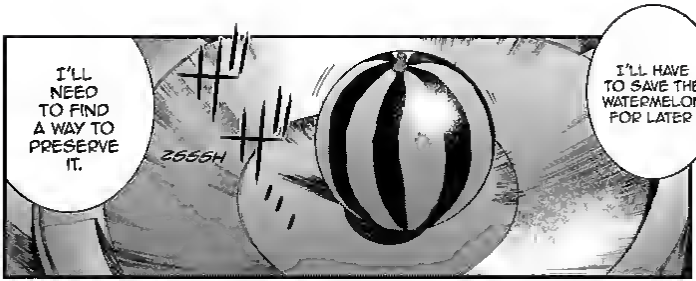
...WAS FAR, FAR SMALLER IN SCALE
THE ONE THE 2501 HAD...

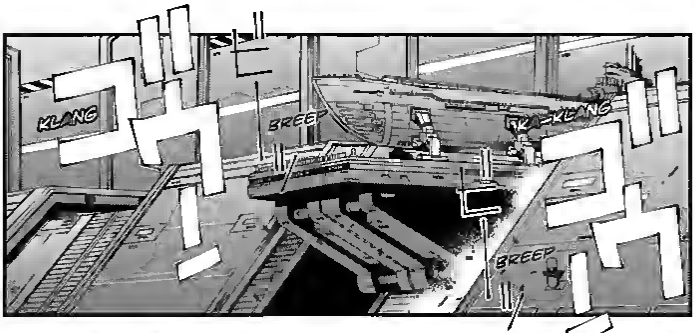

I INTEND TO CONTINUE BEING FLEXIBLE LIKE THIS IN THE FUTURE.
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE ACTUALLY EXPERIENCED "SURPRISE."

MAYA'S FOLLOWING THE NORTHERN SECTOR ESCORT HELICOPTER WHILE SUBMERGED.
THERE'S NOTHING MUCH GOING ON HERE

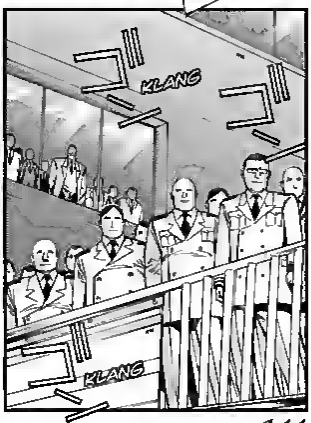
IF SHE DOESN'T SAY ANYTHING, IT SHOULD BE JUST FINE, RIGHT?
THE HIGH FLAGSHIP IS MONITORING US AT ALL TIMES
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT.

DOESN'T WANT THEIR PEOPLE TO SEE A FOG SHIP ENTERING THEIR PORTS
SUB-MERGED? OH, RIGHT
THE NORTHERN SECTOR
I SUPPOSE IT'S THANKS TO THE MENTAL MODELS THAT WE CAN EVEN REALIZE THAT
THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE THAT HATE US
ZSSSH
THAT'S RIGHT.
. ONCE THE MISSION WAS DONE TODAY
JEEZ..
AND I WAS GOING TO GO SALVAGE THINGS FROM THE SUNKEN HUMAN TOWNS
BYE.
ANYWAY, LET'S STAY FLEXIBLE IN THE FUTURE BYE.

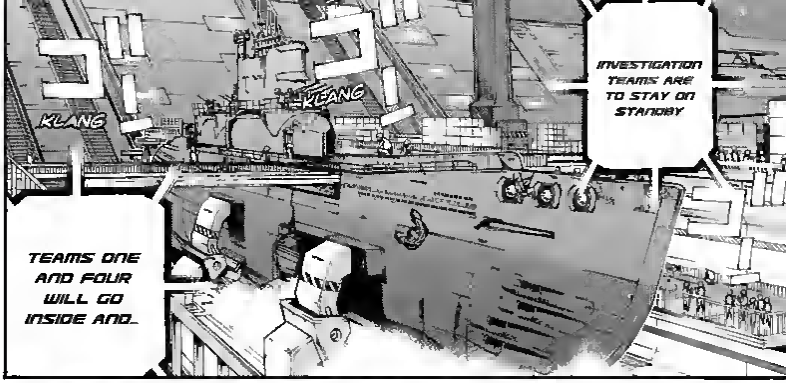

I'LL NEED TO FIND A WAY TO PRESERVE IT.
ZSSSH
I'LL HAVE TO SAVE THE WATERMELON FOR LATER

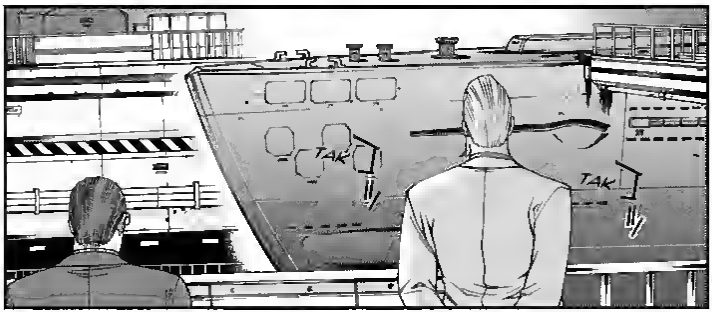

KLANG
BREEP
KA-KLANG
BREEP

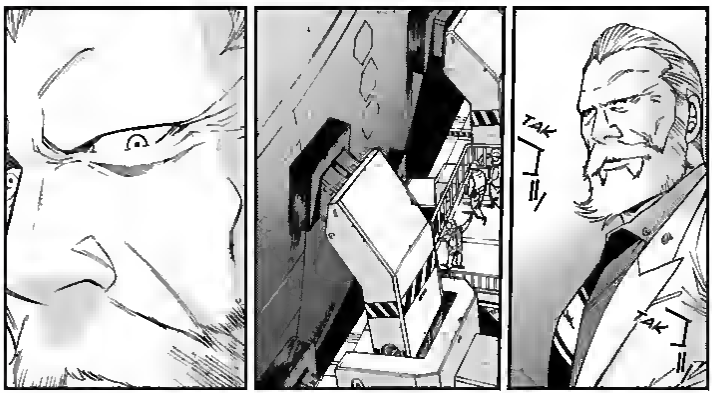
OF COURSE ..
I SAW THIS SAME SIGHT 10 YEARS AGO


KLANG
KLANG

ALL CREW, BEGIN DOCKING PROCEDURE!
KLANG
KLANG
THERE WAS NOBODY ABOARD IT THEN
WHERE ARE YOU GOING, SIR?
TAK
DOWN THERE
BEGIN DOCKING PROCE-DURE!
KLONG
I DON'T CARE IF THAT SHIP GETS SERIOUS WE WON'T BE SAFE ANYWHERE
THAT'S DANGER-OUS
FSHOOM


KLANG
KLANG
INVESTIGATION TEAMS ARE TO STAY ON STANDBY
TEAMS ONE AND FOUR WILL GO INSIDE AND...


TAK
TAK


TAK
TAK

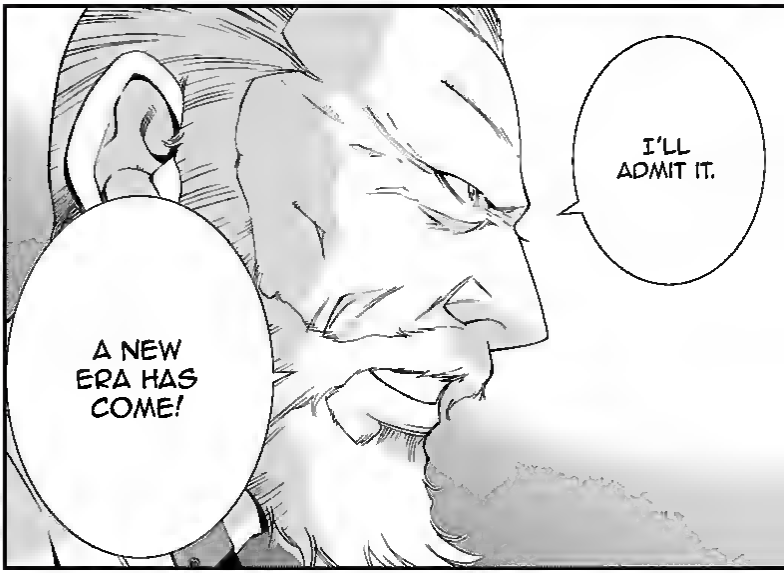
UM...
THE ARMY HAS THEM IN TRANSPORT
WHERE ARE THE BODIES OF THE 401'S CREW?
KLANG
KLANG
CONFIRM THAT THEY'RE REAL! NOW!
WHAT ARE YOU FOOLS LOOKING AT?
CLANG
CLANG
SIR, PLEASE DON'T GET ANY CLOSER
YES SIR!
HUH...?

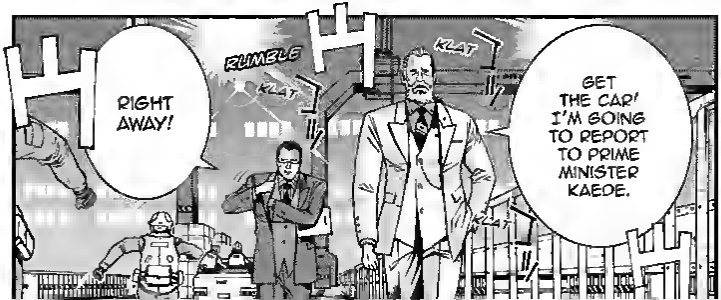
?
LOOK AT THE WAY THE ATTACHMENT ARMS ARE BENDING!
WHAT..?
R-RIGHT AWAY!
MEASURE THE WEIGHT ON THOSE ARMS, NOW! YOU IDIOTS!
YES...
...THERE WAS NOTHING THERE BUT SILVER SAND...
S-SIR...
WHAT A DISASTER..
KLAT
WERE THE BODIES GONE?

I SHOULD'VE GONE MYSELF.
CLANG
CLANG
HE GOT US.
.....
NO.
IT WOULDN'T HAVE MADE
MUCH DIFFERENCE
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG

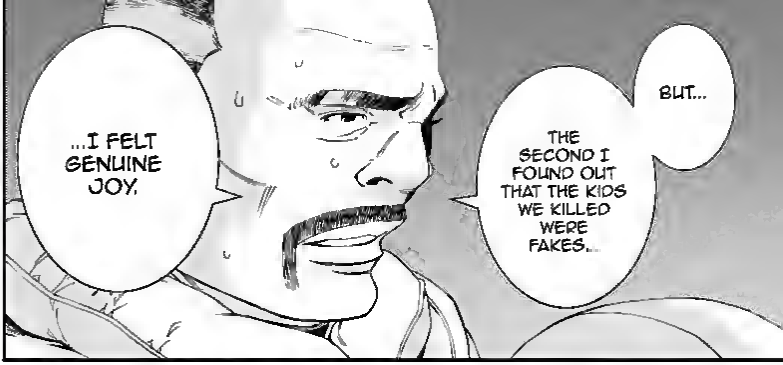
TSUNDERE HEAVY CRUISER
THEY FOUND US OUT..
RUMBLE
EVACUATE!
IT'S COLLAPSING! ALL CREW, EVACUATE!
RUMBLE
RUMBLE

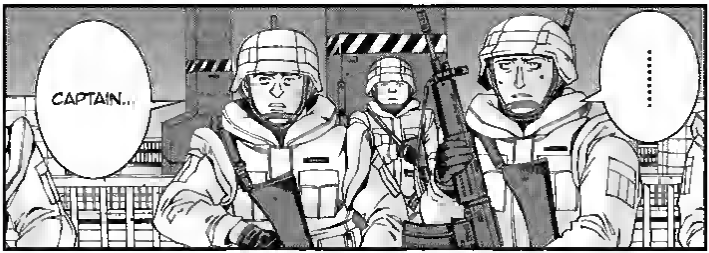
RUMBLE
SIR, IT'S DANGEROUS HERE!
HEH HEH...
HEH.
RUMBLE
SIR...
HOW ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE IT UP TO ME?
CHIHAYA... YOUR SON BEAT US.

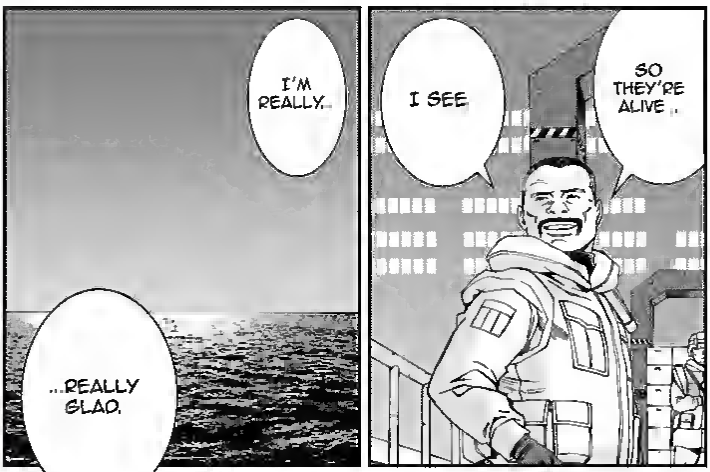

I'LL ADMIT IT.
A NEW ERA HAS COME!


RIGHT AWAY!
RUMBLE
KLAT
KLAT
KLAT
GET THE CAR! I'M GOING TO REPORT TO PRIME MINISTER KAEDE.

.....
SO IT SEEMS...
SO WHAT WE KILLED WERE FAKES?
THAT STILL HASN'T CHANGED.
I'M PROUD OF THIS JOB, AND I'M PROUD OF YOU.
CAPTAIN?
KA-CHAK
I'M GOING BACK TO BASE, AND LEAVING THE FORCE

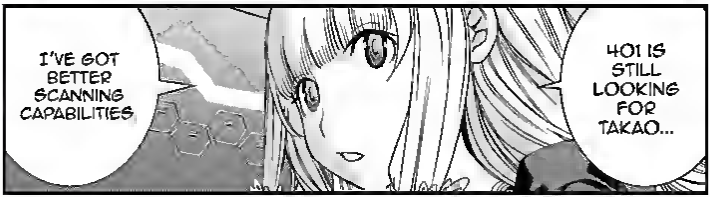

...I FELT GENUINE JOY.
THE SECOND I FOUND OUT THAT THE KIDS WE KILLED WERE FAKES...
BUT...


CAPTAIN...
.....


I'M REALLY...
...REALLY GLAD.
I SEE
SO THEY'RE ALIVE..

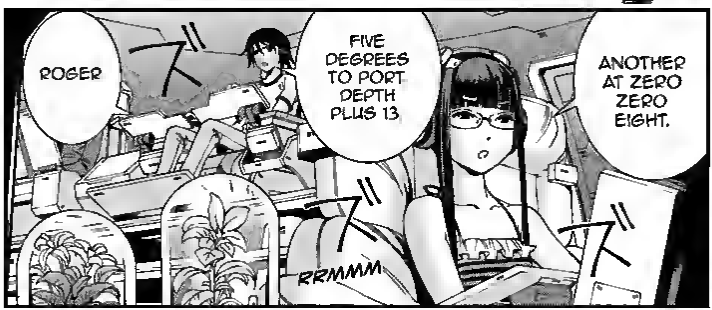
SWOOOOSH
THWOOOM
I MANAGED TO PICK HER UP, BUT...
KLAT
KLAT
KLAT
NOW THEN...
VWEEM

WHAT DO I DO WITH HER?

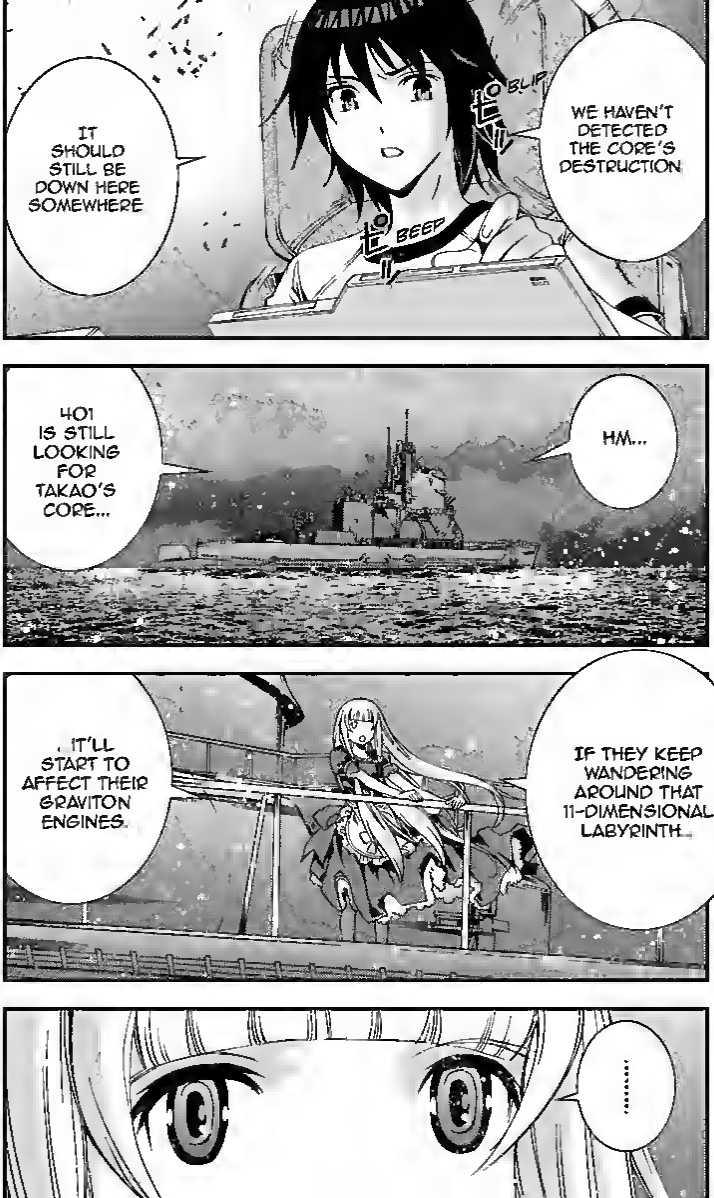

I'VE GOT BETTER SCANNING CAPABILITIES.
401 IS STILL LOOKING FOR TAKAO...

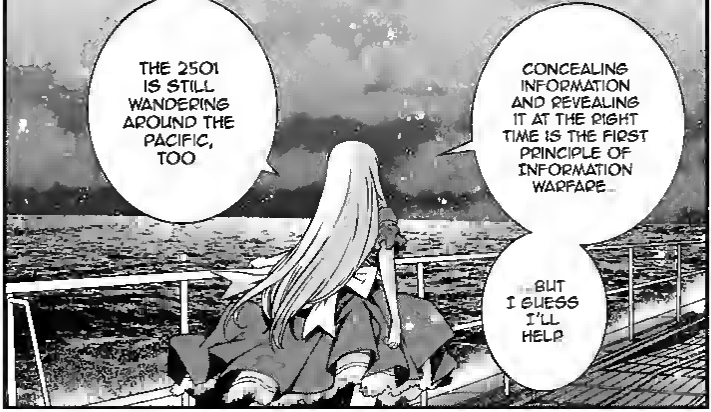
DON'T HATE ME FOR THIS.
GWOOOM
Depot #04 / END

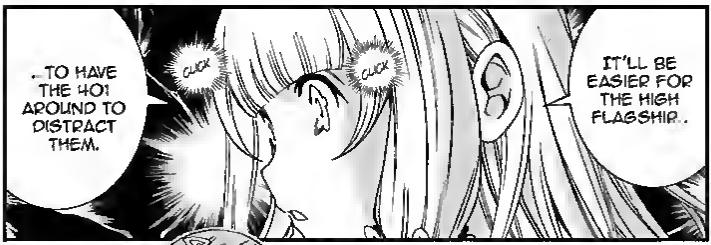
GWOOOM
FLUCTUATION SPACE WALL AT BEARING THREE FOUR FOUR ON OUR DEPTH
SEVEN DEGREES TO STARBOARD. MAINTAIN SPEED AND DEPTH.
ROGER
Depth:042

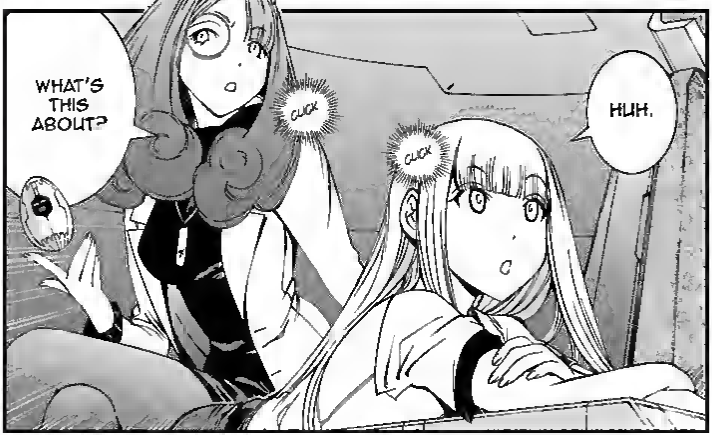

ROGER
FIVE DEGREES TO PORT DEPTH PLUS 13
ANOTHER AT ZERO ZERO EIGHT.
RRMMM

NO SIGN OF HEAVY CRUISER TAKAO'S CORE
NOTHING ON OUR SENSORS
RRMMM


BLIP
BEEP
WE HAVEN'T DETECTED THE CORE'S DESTRUCTION
IT SHOULD STILL BE DOWN HERE SOMEWHERE
HM...
401 IS STILL LOOKING FOR TAKAO'S CORE...
IF THEY KEEP WANDERING AROUND THAT 11-DIMENSIONAL LABYRINTH...
. IT'LL START TO AFFECT THEIR GRAVITON ENGINES.
.....

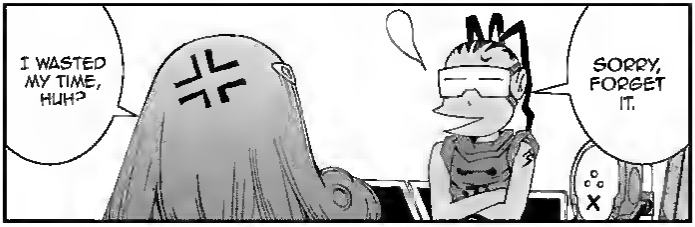

THE 2501 IS STILL WANDERING AROUND THE PACIFIC, TOO
CONCEALING INFORMATION AND REVEALING IT AT THE RIGHT TIME IS THE FIRST PRINCIPLE OF INFORMATION WARFARE...
...BUT I GUESS I'LL HELP


...TO HAVE THE 401 AROUND TO DISTRACT THEM.
CLICK
CLICK
IT'LL BE EASIER FOR THE HIGH FLAGSHIP...

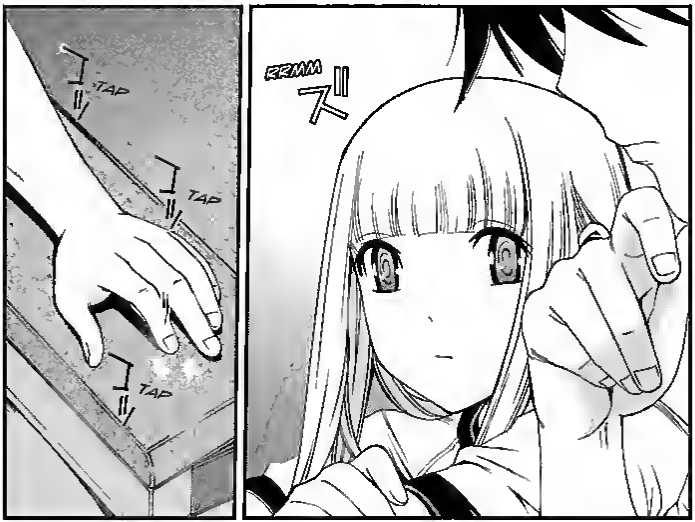

WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?
CLICK
CLICK
HUH.

WHAT'S GOING ON?
402 JUST UPLOADED THE INFORMATION...
...THAT SHE'S RECOVERED TAKAO'S CORE TO THE TACTICAL NETWORK.
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
IT'S LIKELY SOME KIND OF MESSAGE.
IORI, HOW ARE THE ENGINES?
FINE FOR NOW, BUT SOMETIMES THE OUTPUT'S NOT PICKING UP RIGHT.
I'M MATCHING IT WITH THE DATA...
...BUT IT FEELS LIKE IT'S HAPPENING WHENEVER WE GET NEAR A FLUCTUATION SPACE.

THINK YOU COULD EXPLAIN THAT?
A SUPER-GRAVITY CANNON IS POWERFUL, BUT IT CAN'T DEPLOY ON MULTIPLE DIMENSIONS LIKE THIS.
THE 2501 USED SOMETHING IN THIS AREA
THE DIFFERENT DIMENSIONS ARE OVER-LAPPING IN SPOTS AROUND HERE SOMETIMES ONE, SOMETIMES SEVEN.
THE PLACES WHERE THEY INTERSECT...
...ARE WHAT WE WERE CALLING WALLS.
THEY'RE AFFECTING THE GRAVITONS INSIDE THE GRAVITON ENGINES


I WASTED MY TIME, HUH?
SORRY, FORGET IT.

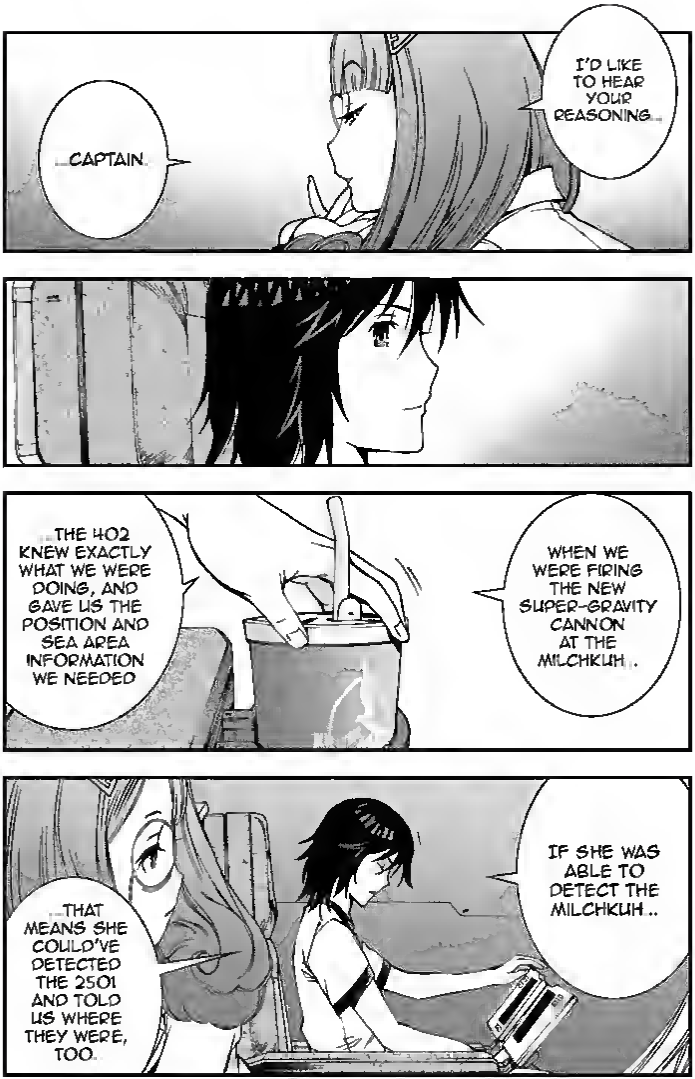
ZZMM
ZZMM
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP


TAP
TAP
TAP
ZZMM

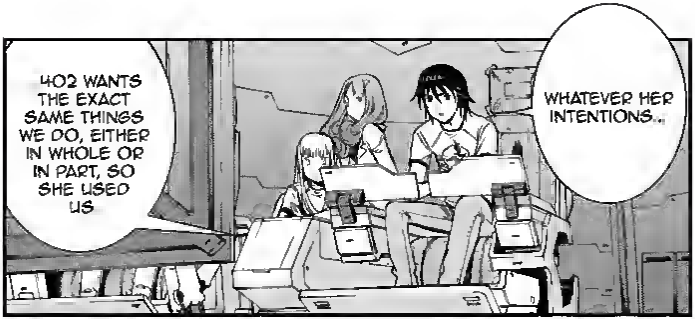
RRMM
RRMM
.....
WE'RE CALLING OFF THE SEARCH FOR TAKAO.
WE'LL LEAVE THIS AREA AND MEET UP WITH THE HAKUGEI
AS SOON AS I'VE GOT A BETTER HANDLE ON THE SITUATION, I'D LIKE TO RECOVER TAKAO'S CORE
ROGER. LEAVING AREA
SETTING A COURSE FOR THE HAKUGEI
AGAIN...
WHY ARE YOU SO WILLING TO TRUST 402?

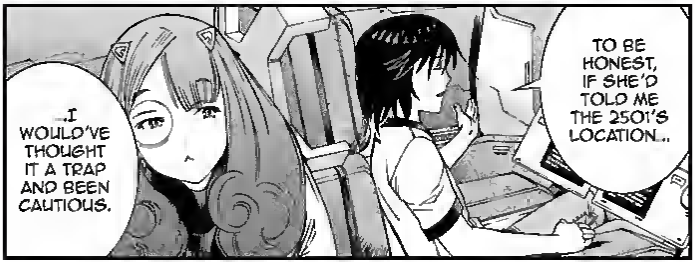
TRUST...
WELL, IN A SENSE...
I GUESS I DO TRUST HER
PUT SIMPLY, THERE'S NO REAL REASON...
FOR THE 402 TO LIE TO US IN THIS SITUATION.
?
BLUE STEEL

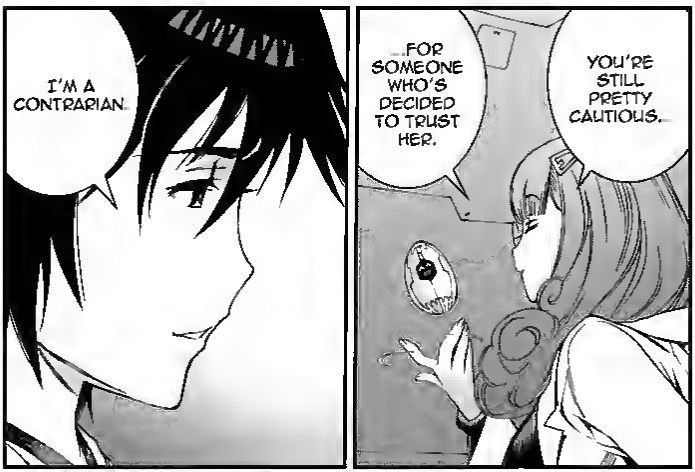
EVEN IF YOU DON'T HAVE A WAY TO BREAK THROUGH KLEIN FIELDS YET...
...A MASS-PRODUCED VIBRATION WARHEAD...
...IS GOING TO BE A NUISANCE FOR THE FOG FLEET.
THE 402 IS A FOG SHIP.
I THINK THAT'S MORE THAN ENOUGH REASON TO WANT TO SINK THE 401.
BUT EITHER SHE, OR HER SUPERIORS...
...HAVE DECIDED THAT NOW ISN'T THE TIME TO DO SO.
TRUE.


I'D LIKE TO HEAR YOUR REASONING...
...CAPTAIN.
WHEN WE WERE FIRING THE NEW SUPER-GRAVITY CANNON AT THE MILCHKUH..
...THE 402 KNEW EXACTLY WHAT WE WERE DOING, AND GAVE US THE POSITION AND SEA AREA INFORMATION WE NEEDED
IF SHE WAS ABLE TO DETECT THE MILCHKUH..
...THAT MEANS SHE COULD'VE DETECTED THE 2501 AND TOLD US WHERE THEY WERE, TOO.

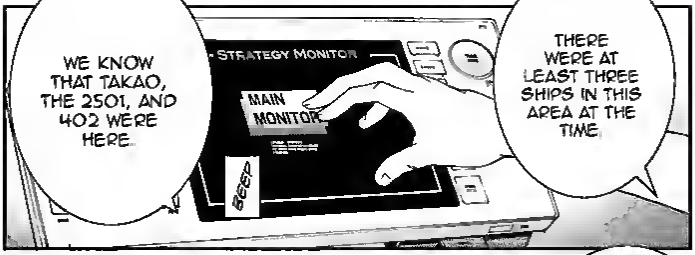
WE MIGHT'VE CHANGED OUR TARGET..
...TO THE 2501 IN ORDER TO SAVE TAKAO.
SHE COULD'VE TRIED TELLING US BOTH
IT WOULDN'T HAVE COST HER ANY-THING
.....
BUT SHE DIDN'T EVEN TRY THAT.
IN OTHER WORDS, THE 2501 IS A NUISANCE...
...BUT SHE DOESN'T WANT IT SUNK.

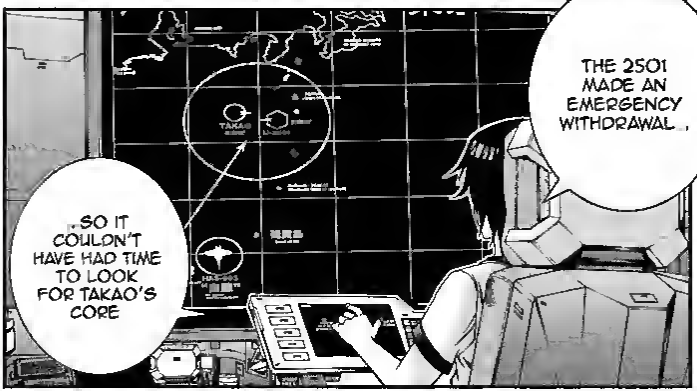

WHATEVER HER INTENTIONS...
402 WANTS THE EXACT SAME THINGS WE DO, EITHER IN WHOLE OR IN PART, SO SHE USED US

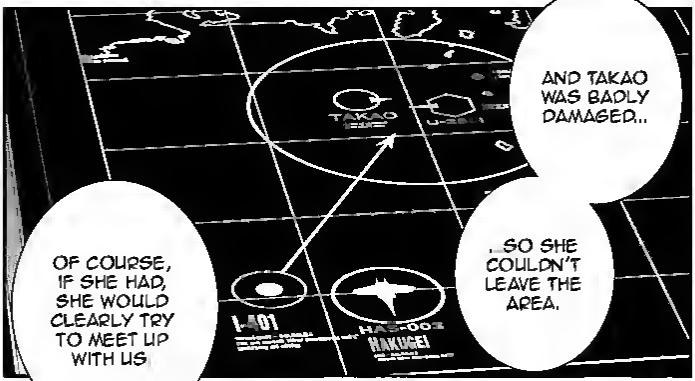

TO BE HONEST, IF SHE'D TOLD ME THE 2501'S LOCATION...
...I WOULD'VE THOUGHT IT A TRAP AND BEEN CAUTIOUS.

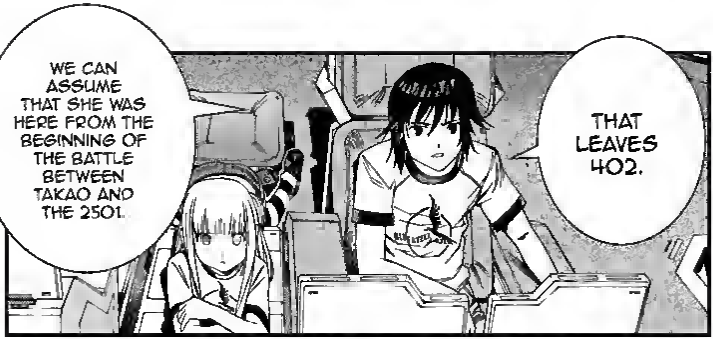

YOU'RE STILL PRETTY CAUTIOUS...
...FOR SOMEONE WHO'S DECIDED TO TRUST HER.
I'M A CONTRARIAN.

SAW WHAT?
I THINK TAKAO PROBABLY SAW SOMETHING.
.. YOU DECIDED SHE MUST'VE PICKED UP TAKAO'S CORE, TOO, RIGHT?
SO, SINCE YOU TRUST THE 402...
..DOESN'T WANT US TO KNOW WHAT THAT IS YET.
THE 402...
THAT THE 2501 USED SOMETHING.
HYUUGA, REMEMBER WHAT YOU JUST SAID?

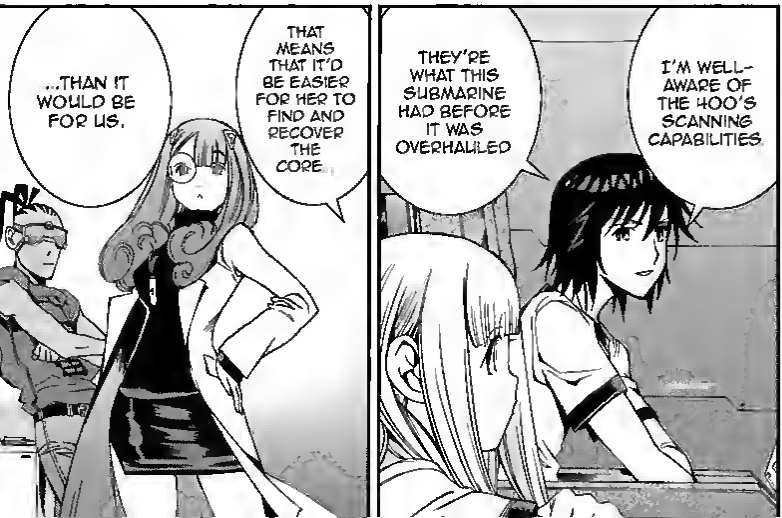

STRATEGY MONITOR
MAIN MONITOR
BEEP
WE KNOW THAT TAKAO, THE 2501, AND 402 WERE HERE.
THERE WERE AT LEAST THREE SHIPS IN THIS AREA AT THE TIME.


THE 2501 MADE AN EMERGENCY WITHDRAWAL..
..SO IT COULDN'T HAVE HAD TIME TO LOOK FOR TAKAO'S CORE


TAKAO
I-401
HAKUGEI
AND TAKAO WAS BADLY DAMAGED..
..SO SHE COULDN'T LEAVE THE AREA.
OF COURSE, IF SHE HAD, SHE WOULD CLEARLY TRY TO MEET UP WITH US.

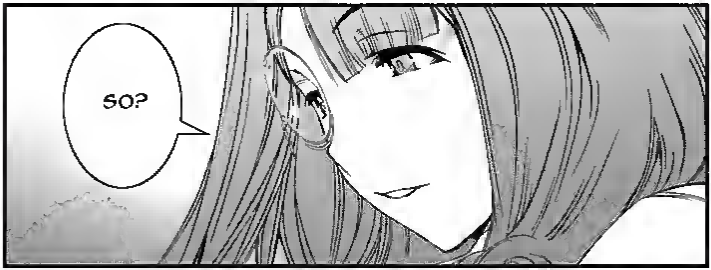

WE CAN ASSUME THAT SHE WAS HERE FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE BATTLE BETWEEN TAKAO AND THE 2501.
THAT LEAVES 402.

SHE WOULD'VE HAD TIME TO SEARCH AFTER THE BATTLE TOO..
...BEFORE WE GOT HERE.

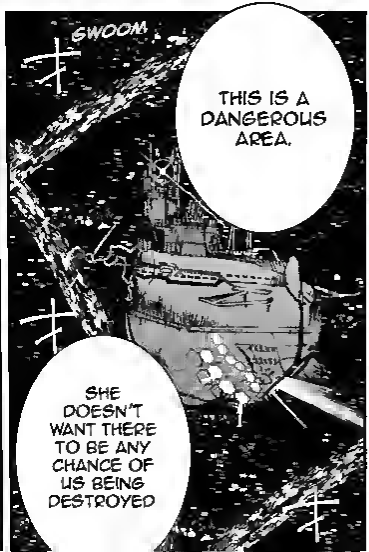

...THAN IT WOULD BE FOR US.
THAT MEANS THAT IT'D BE EASIER FOR HER TO FIND AND RECOVER THE CORE.
THEY'RE WHAT THIS SUBMARINE HAD BEFORE IT WAS OVERHAULED
I'M WELL-AWARE OF THE 400'S SCANNING CAPABILITIES.

SO YOU THINK THAT 402 WALKED OFF WITH TAKAO'S CORE...
...TO KEEP US FROM GETTING INFORMATION ON THE 2501?
TAK
TAK
BUT...
THE 402 HELPED US SINK THE MILCHKUH.
CREAK
THAT MEANS SHE WAS HELPING US AGAINST THEM.
NOW SHE'S HELPING THEM AGAINST US?

402 UPLOADED THE FACT THAT SHE'D RECOVERED TAKAO'S CORE...
...TO THE TACTICAL NETWORK.


SO?

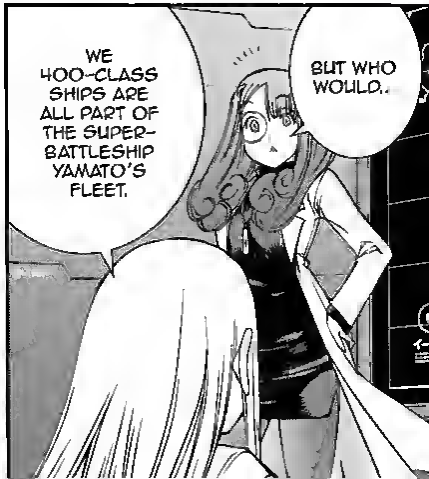
"DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME. LEAVE NOW."
THAT WAS HER MESSAGE.


SWOOM
THIS IS A DANGEROUS AREA.
SHE DOESN'T WANT THERE TO BE ANY CHANCE OF US BEING DESTROYED

...SHE WANTS US TO CONTINUE TO FACE THE 2501.
IN OTHER WORDS...

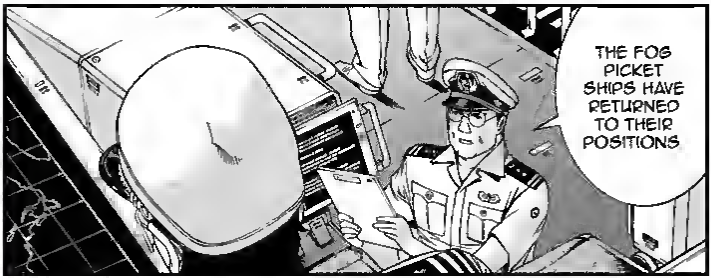
CREAK
THAT'S RIGHT.

...THAT NO LONGER APPLIES TO ME.
OF COURSE...


WE 400-CLASS SHIPS ARE ALL PART OF THE SUPER-BATTLESHIP YAMATO'S FLEET.
BUT WHO WOULD..

CLICK
.....
YAMATO...
CLICK
CLICK
THAT MEANS SOMEONE IN THE FOG HAS STARTED TO ENGAGE IN "POLITICS."
SOMEONE OTHER THAN MY FATHER.

CAPTAIN KOMAKI.


THE FOG PICKET SHIPS HAVE RETURNED TO THEIR POSITIONS

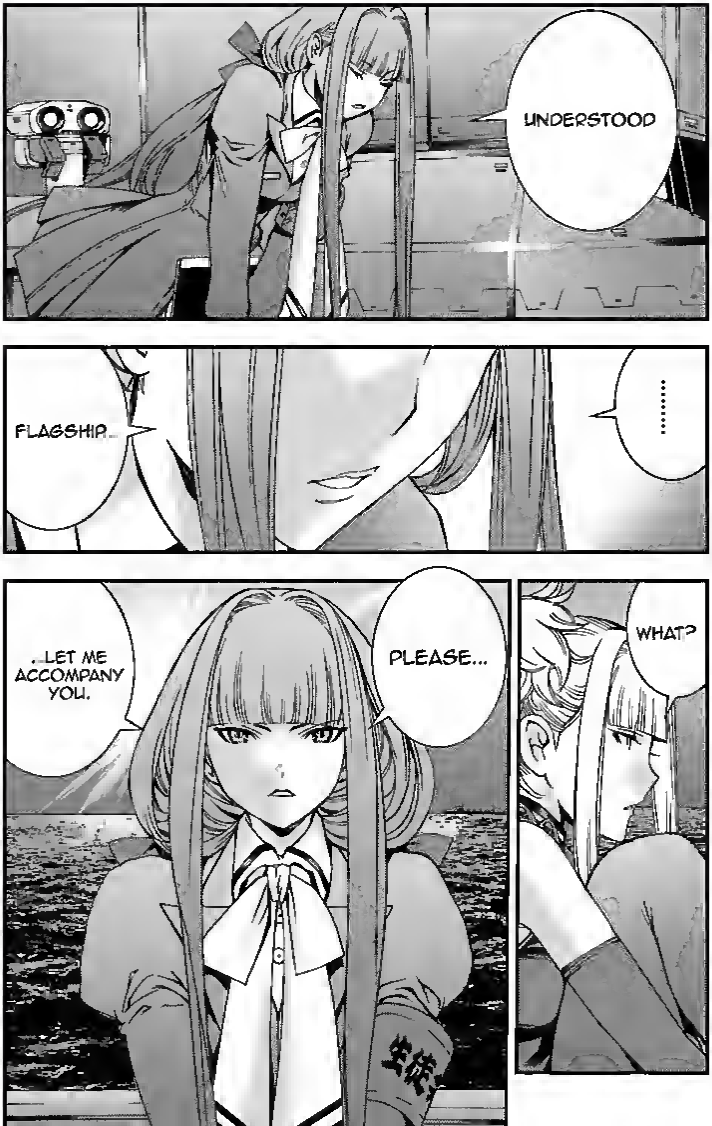
...IT'S MISSION COMPLETE, THEN.
SO...

PROBABLY.
YES...

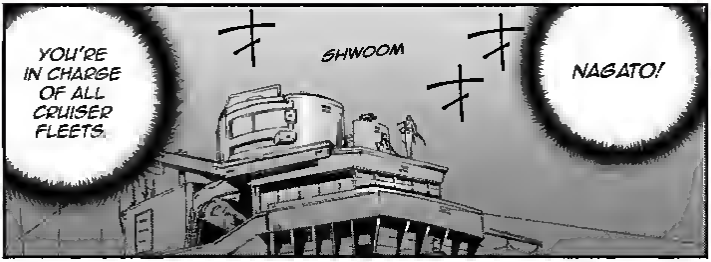
SHWOOM
IF I SAY THIS WAS A GOOD EXPERIENCE...
..IS THAT JUST ME TRYING TO JUSTIFY MY LOSS?

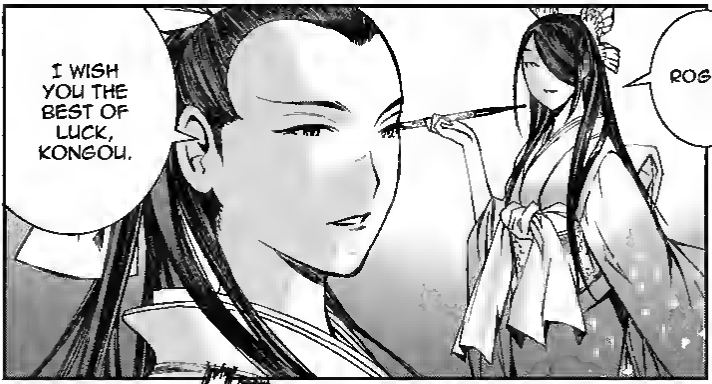
NO...
...MISS KONGOU.
STUDENT COUNCIL REGISTER
HIEI.

ROGER.
WE'LL START PATROLLING AGAIN.
RESTART THE BLOCKADE AROUND THE SEA OF JAPAN.
I'LL SPLIT THE FLEET INTO TWO.
NO MORE LITTLE GAMES.
I'LL SINK THE 401.


UNDERSTOOD
.....
FLAGSHIP...
PLEASE...
..LET ME ACCOMPANY YOU.
WHAT?

WHO WILL COMMAND YOUR CRUISER FLEET?
ISE WILL.
JANGLE
DO AS YOU WISH.
YES MA'AM.


YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF ALL CRUISER FLEETS.
SHWOOM
NAGATO!


I WISH YOU THE BEST OF LUCK, KONGOU.
ROGER.

FLAP
FORM A FLEET TO ATTACK THE 401 AND HEAD NORTH!
FLEET! SET A COURSE! BEARING ZERO FOUR SEVEN! CRUISING SPEED ONE!
FLAP

FLEET HEADING ZERO-FOUR-SEVEN
ROGER.
SPEED...
VWEEEM

THWOOM

ドオ
THWOOM

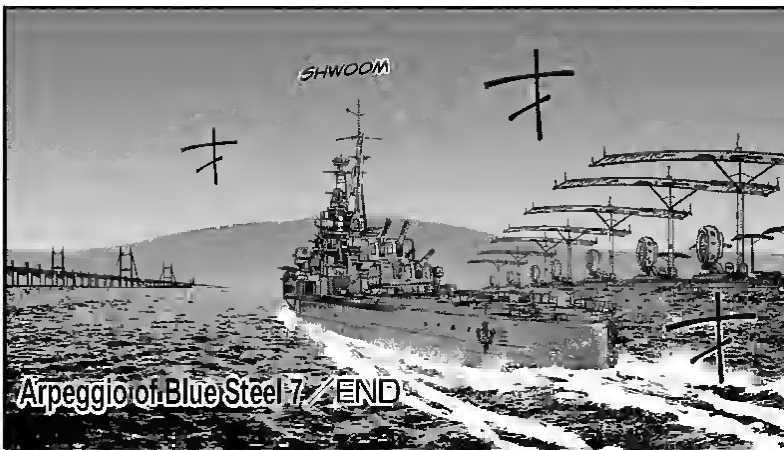
THUP
THUP
THUP
ズ
ZRRMM
ォ
RRMMM
ォ
ドォ
THWOOOM
ォ

A FOG BATTLESHIP APPEARING IN A HUMAN PORT...
.....
THIS SIGHT ALONE...
..JUSTIFIES COMING HERE FROM SAPPORO
SHWOOM

SHWOOM

...IS MAKIE IN THIS TOWN?
HARUNA..

SHWOOM

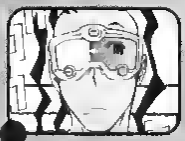

SHWOOM
Arpeggio of Blue Steel 7 / END

CAUTION!! CAUTION!! CAUTION!! CAU

I DECIDED TO TRUST DOCTOR OSAKABE AND HIS CHILDREN
THAT'S ENOUGH
THE FOG AND HUMANITY MEET.
AND IF THEY WON'T GIVE IT TO US?
WHAT DOES HIGH FLAGSHIP YAMATO WANT?
...THEN?
WE TAKE IT BY FORCE...
FLAP
EACH OF THEIR PLOTS WILL COLLIDE!!!

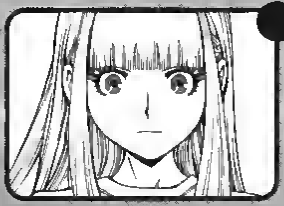
BLUE STEEL- CREW OF THE I401

GUNZOU CHIHAYA



KYOUHEI KASHIHARA

IORI WATANUKI



IONA

SNIZUKA HODZUMI

SOU ORIKABE

ENEMIES

ALLIES

ALLIES

BLUE STEEL FLEET

TAKAO

HYUUGA

UNIFIED ARMY

RYUUJIROU KAMIKAGE

MARURI HIBIKI

DAISAKU KOMAKI

KURTZ HAROER

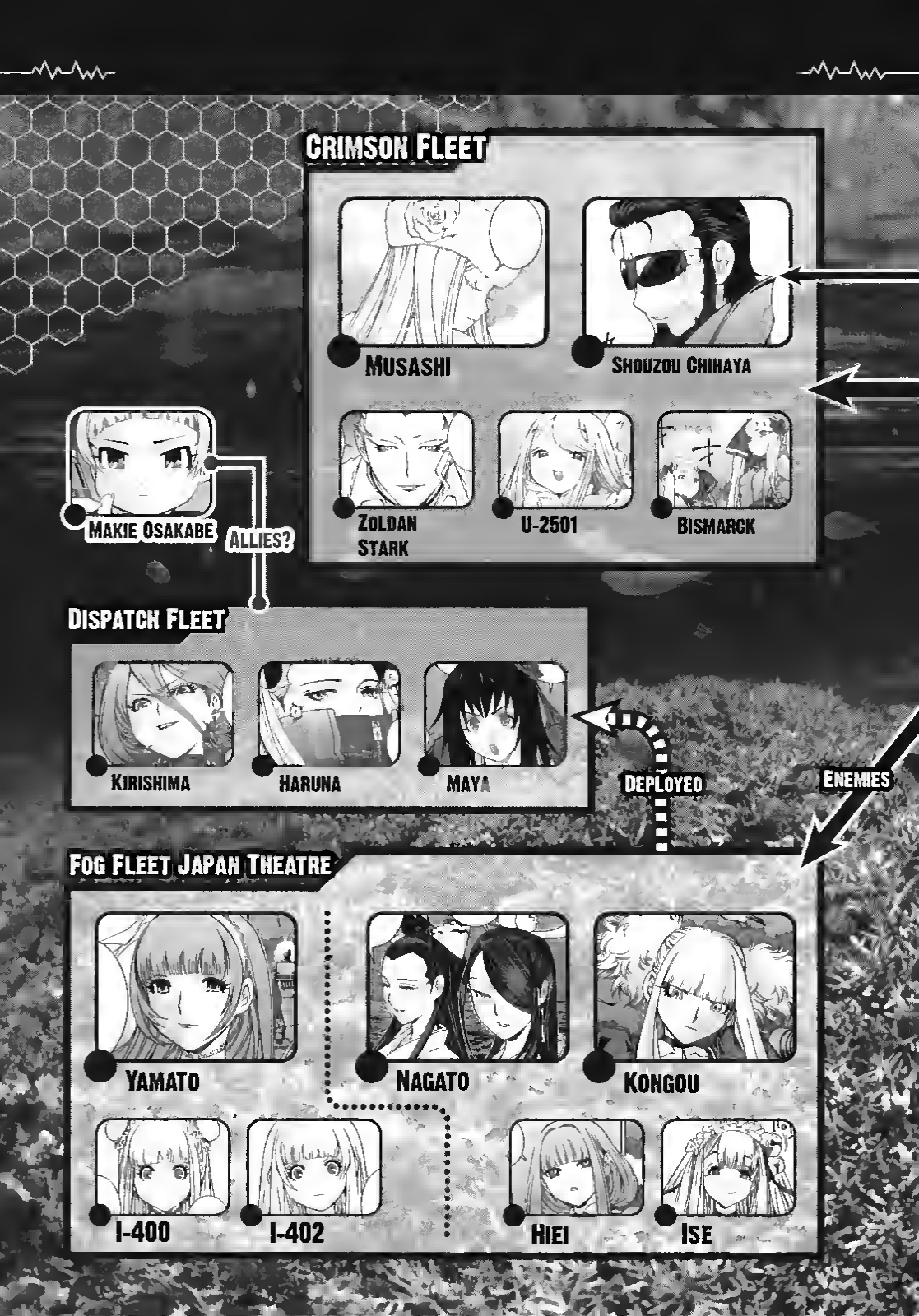
HIROSNI URAGAMI

JAPANESE GOVERNMENT

NOBUYOSNI KAEOE

MAKOTO OSAKABE

RYOUKAN KITA


CRIMSON FLEET
MUSASHI
SHOUZOU CHIHAYA
ZOLDAN STARK
U-2501
BISMARCK
MAKIE OSAKABE
ALLIES?
DISPATCH FLEET
KIRISHIMA
HARUNA
MAYA
DEPLOYED
ENEMIES
FOG FLEET JAPAN THEATRE
YAMATO
NAGATO
KONGOU
I-400
I-402
HIEI
ISE

蒼き鋼のアルペジオ

ARPEGGIO OF BLUE STEEL

YOUNG KING COMICS

YKC"ARPEGGIO
Ark Performance Pre
The torpedo is laun
It is terrible destruct
Take care not to hit.

Ark Performance 07